

From: Zielinski, Justin
Sent: Thursday, April 27, 2017 3:40 PM
To: 'schretien@alec.org'
Subject: ALEC Conference in Charlotte

Hi Spencer,

Thanks for all your help with getting Speaker Pro Tempore Schuring signed up for ALEC.

While we are happy that he is finally a member, he actually had a family matter pop up that will prohibit him from attending the Charlotte conference (which I of course registered him for and paid for). To that end, I was wondering if we could have him be reimbursed for the conference in Charlotte?

Thanks again,

Justin

From: Spencer Chretien
Sent: Friday, April 28, 2017 9:38 AM
To: Zielinski, Justin
Subject: RE: ALEC Conference in Charlotte
Attachments: STFS Reimbursement Form.doc

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Hi Justin,

Yes, you can get him reimbursed for the registration fee. But, we do not process reimbursement requests until after the meeting. After the meeting, would you be able to fill out this form, attach all relevant receipts, and return it to me?

Thank you and please let me know if you have any questions.

Spencer

Spencer Chretien
Membership Manager
American Legislative Exchange Council
571-482-5013 (office)
202-281-8879 (cell)
SChretien@alec.org



Upcoming Meetings:

2017 Spring Task Force Summit – May 5, 2017 – Charlotte, North Carolina
2017 Annual Meeting – July 19-21, 2017 – Denver, Colorado
2017 States and Nation Policy Summit – December 6-8, 2017 – Nashville, Tennessee

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[Website](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Blog](#)

From: Justin.Zielinski@ohiohouse.gov [mailto:Justin.Zielinski@ohiohouse.gov]
Sent: Thursday, April 27, 2017 3:40 PM
To: Spencer Chretien
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Thanks again,

Justin



SPRING TASK FORCE SUMMIT
REIMBURSEMENT FORM

Date: _____ Amount: \$ _____ Submitted
by: _____

- ☐ State Chair Appointed Task Force Member
☐ Self-Selecting Task Force Member (Reimbursement requires State Chair approval)
State Chair Authorization: _____

PLEASE CHECK TASK FORCE ATTENDED:

- ☐ Civil Justice
☐ Commerce, Insurance and Economic Development
☐ Communications and Technology
☐ Criminal Justice Reform
☐ Education and Workforce Development
☐ Energy, Environment and Agriculture
☐ Health and Human Services
☐ Tax and Fiscal Policy

Check to:

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip

Code: _____

Are Receipts Attached? ☐ YES ☐ NO

If "NO," please

explain: _____

Please Mail/Email to:
Membership Manager
American Legislative Exchange Council
2900 Crystal Drive, 6th Floor
Arlington, VA 22202

Email: schretien@alec.org
Phone: (571) 482-5013

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Department Manager

Date

Chief Executive Officer

Account: _____

Batch#: _____

To be paid on: _____

Task Force Director/Comments: _____

From: Zielinski, Justin
Sent: Friday, April 28, 2017 11:40 AM
To: 'Keaton, John'
Subject: RE: ALEC Spring Task Force

Hi John,

Representative Schuring has actually had a scheduling conflict arise and will no longer be able to attend the ALEC Task Force.

Nonetheless, thank you for the inviting him to attend the presentation.

All the best,

Justin Zielinski
Senior Legislative Aide
State Representative Kirk Schuring
Speaker Pro Tempore
77 South High Street, 14th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215
614-752-2438



From: Keaton, John [mailto:John.Keaton@duke-energy.com]
Sent: Wednesday, April 26, 2017 3:48 PM
To: Rep91 <Rep91@ohiohouse.gov>; Rep30 <Rep30@ohiohouse.gov>; Lou Terhar (R-Green Twp) (sd08@ohiosenate.gov) <sd08@ohiosenate.gov>; Rep48 <Rep48@ohiohouse.gov>; Keith Faber (DST) <SD12@ohiosenate.gov>; Rep28 <Rep28@ohiohouse.gov>
Cc: Gentil, Ryan D <Ryan.Gentil@duke-energy.com>; Barrett, Lee E <Lee.Barrett@duke-energy.com>
Subject: ALEC Spring Task Force

Gentlemen,

We understand you may be planning to attend the ALEC Spring Task Force in Charlotte, NC, on Friday, May 5, 2017. If so, please make a note that Lee Mazzocchi, Senior VP of Grid Solutions for Duke Energy, is delivering a 30 minute presentation on gas and electric infrastructure investments to the ALEC EE&A Task Force at 4:30PM that day. Lee's remarks will cover the \$25 billion Duke Energy is investing across the Company's enterprise over the next several years with highlights that include plans for Ohio.

It would be great if you could attend the presentation to learn more about the Company and so Ryan and I can introduce you to Lee. If the timing works, we could then head together to evening events.

Please let us know your availability and plans.

Thanks.

John & Ryan

John Keaton

State Government Affairs Director | Ohio



Duke Energy Business Services | Government & Community Affairs – OH/KY
155 East Broad St | 20th Floor | Columbus, OH 43215
Office: 614-222-1330 | Mobile: 614-271-5720

From: Keaton, John
Sent: Friday, April 28, 2017 11:50 AM
To: Zielinski, Justin
Subject: RE: ALEC Spring Task Force

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Justin,

Thanks for considering and for the heads up. I'll send along the presentation once it's complete for Rep. Schuring to review at his leisure.

John

From: Justin.Zielinski@ohiohouse.gov [mailto:Justin.Zielinski@ohiohouse.gov]
Sent: Friday, April 28, 2017 11:40 AM
To: Keaton, John
Subject: RE: ALEC Spring Task Force

***** Exercise caution. This is an EXTERNAL email.
DO NOT open attachments or click links from
unknown senders or unexpected email. *****

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John Keaton

State Government Affairs Director | Ohio



Duke Energy Business Services | Government & Community Affairs – OH/KY
155 East Broad St | 20th Floor | Columbus, OH 43215
Office: 614-222-1330 | Mobile: 614-271-5720

From: Zielinski, Justin
Sent: Wednesday, May 24, 2017 7:39 AM
To: 'Spencer Chretien'
Subject: RE: ALEC Conference in Charlotte

Good morning, Spencer,

I am filling out the attached form that you sent me but wanted to be sure I wasn't doing anything wrong on my end.

I am not sure which selection to choose at the top and for the bottom options, since he did not attend, do I just leave blank?

Thanks for your continued help.

Justin

From: Spencer Chretien [mailto:schretien@alec.org]
Sent: Friday, April 28, 2017 9:38 AM
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From: Spencer Chretien
Sent: Wednesday, May 24, 2017 9:19 AM
To: Zielinski, Justin
Subject: RE: ALEC Conference in Charlotte

Follow Up Flag: Flag for follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Hi Justin,

You can just leave it blank, yes.

Thanks.

Spencer

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Thanks again,

Justin

From: Zielinski, Justin
Sent: Wednesday, May 24, 2017 10:51 AM
To: 'Spencer Chretien'
Subject: RE: ALEC Conference in Charlotte

Thank you!

From: Spencer Chretien [mailto:schretien@alec.org]
Sent: Wednesday, May 24, 2017 9:19 AM
To: Zielinski, Justin <Justin.Zielinski@ohiohouse.gov>
Subject: RE: ALEC Conference in Charlotte

Hi Justin,

You can just leave it blank, yes.

Thanks.

Spencer

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Thanks again,

Justin

From: Zielinski, Justin
Sent: Tuesday, June 6, 2017 11:10 AM
To: 'Spencer Chretien'
Subject: Speaker Pro Tempore Schuring ALEC Reimbursement
Attachments: SchuringALEC.pdf

Good morning, Spencer,

Please find attached, Rep. Schuring's reimbursement form for the Spring Task Force Summit that he was unable to attend.

Thanks for all your help.

Best,

Justin Zielinski
Senior Legislative Aide
State Representative Kirk Schuring
Speaker Pro Tempore
77 South High Street, 14th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215
614-752-2438



ALEC

American
Legislative
Exchange
Council

LIMITED GOVERNMENT • FREE MARKETS • FEDERALISM

SPRING TASK FORCE SUMMIT
REIMBURSEMENT FORM

Date: 05/24/17 Amount: \$ 175.00 Submitted by: Justin Zielinski (LA-schuring)

- ☐ State Chair Appointed Task Force Member
☒ Self-Selecting Task Force Member (Reimbursement requires State Chair approval)
State Chair Authorization: _____

PLEASE CHECK TASK FORCE ATTENDED:

- ☐ Civil Justice
☐ Commerce, Insurance and Economic Development
☐ Communications and Technology
☐ Criminal Justice Reform
☐ Education and Workforce Development
☐ Energy, Environment and Agriculture
☐ Health and Human Services
☐ Tax and Fiscal Policy

Did
not
attend

Check to:
Name: Citizens for Schuring
Address: 330 3rd St NW
City: Atlanta State: GA Zip Code: 44702

Are Receipts Attached? ☒ YES ☐ NO

If "NO," please

explain: _____

Please Mail/Email to:
Membership Manager
American Legislative Exchange Council
2900 Crystal Drive, 6th Floor
Arlington, VA 22202

Email: schretien@alec.org
Phone: (571) 482-5013

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

Department Manager

Date

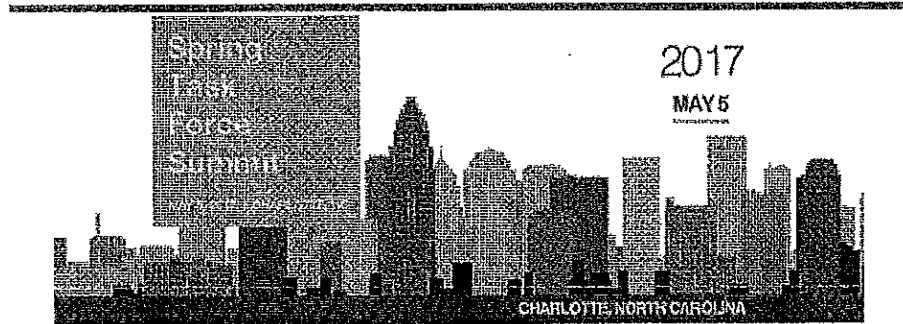
Chief Executive Officer

Account: _____ Batch#: _____ To be paid on: _____

Task Force Director/Comments: _____

Rep48

From: Mason Hunt <mhunt@alec.org>
Sent: Thursday, April 20, 2017 11:08 AM
To: Rep48
Subject: ALEC Registration Confirmed - 2017 Spring Task Force Summit



Dear Kirk:

Your registration has been confirmed. Thank you for registering to attend the ALEC 2017 Spring Task Force Meeting. Please save this email for future reference.

Still need to make your hotel reservation? [Make your reservation now.](#)

Special events happening at our Spring Task Force Summit:

Center for Innovation and Technology Reception
Thursday, May 4 - 4:30 PM - 6:00 PM

ALEC CARE Training for Legislative Members
Thursday, Friday and Saturday (See [agenda](#) for times)
Learn more about [ALEC CARE](#) - RSVP to [Ashley Varner](#)

Workshop: "Delivering the Tech Future: How Wired Networks Power an Unwired World"
Friday, May 5 - 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Check our [meetings website](#) often for updates on agenda news!

Event: 2017 Spring Task Force Summit
Attending: Kirk Schuring
Number in Party: 1
Time: 8:00 AM
Date: Friday, May 5, 2017
Location: The Westin Charlotte
Address: 601 S College St, Charlotte, North Carolina 28202, USA
Confirmation Number: NDNX9NK8DLL
Registration Type: Legislative Member
Current Registration:

Registration Information:

Registration Items		
Kirk	Event Registration	
Schuring		
Kirk	ALEC CARE Training	04-May-2017 1:00 PM
Schuring		
Kirk	Center for Innovation and Technology Reception	04-May-2017 4:30 PM
Schuring		
Kirk	Communications and Technology Subcommittee	05-May-2017 8:00 AM
Schuring		
Kirk	ALEC CARE Training	05-May-2017 9:00 AM
Schuring		
Kirk	Lunch - Communications and Technology	05-May-2017 12:30 PM
Schuring		
Kirk	Communications and Technology Task Force	05-May-2017 2:00 PM
Schuring		
Kirk	North Carolina Welcome Reception	05-May-2017 5:00 PM
Schuring		
Kirk	ALEC CARE Training	06-May-2017 9:00 AM
Schuring		
Additional Information		
Kirk	Is this your first time attending an ALEC event?	
Schuring	Yes	
	Would you like to receive SMS Push Notifications?	
	No	
	Please indicate the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Task Force you would like to serve on at the 2017 Spring Task Force Summit.	
	1st Choice: Communications and Technology, 2nd Choice: Communications and Technology, 3rd Choice: Communications and Technology	
	Name of Person to Contact	
	tyler yapple	
	Phone	
	6143092453	
	Relationship to You	
	Colleague	



[Click here to view the event summary](#)

We look forward to seeing you there!

Sincerely,
Mason Hunt
Events Coordinator
mhunt@alec.org



If you no longer want to receive emails from ALEC Events, please [Opt-Out](#)

Your payment for the 2017 Spring Task Force Summit event has been successfully processed. Please save this email for your records.

Transaction Information:

Item	Transaction Information	Quantity	Amount
Event Registration		\$175.00	1 \$175.00
Transaction Total			\$175.00

Registration Confirmation Number: NDNX9NK8DLL

[View your registration](#)

If you have any questions about this transaction or email, please contact ALEC Events directly at meetings@alec.org.

powered by
cvent

From: Spencer Chretien
Sent: Tuesday, June 6, 2017 11:12 AM
To: Zielinski, Justin
Subject: RE: Speaker Pro Tempore Schuring ALEC Reimbursement

Thank you

From: Justin.Zielinski@ohiohouse.gov [mailto:Justin.Zielinski@ohiohouse.gov]
Sent: Tuesday, June 06, 2017 11:10 AM
To: Spencer Chretien
Subject: Speaker Pro Tempore Schuring ALEC Reimbursement

Good morning, Spencer,

Please find attached, Rep. Schuring's reimbursement form for the Spring Task Force Summit that he was unable to attend.

Thanks for all your help.

Best,

Justin Zielinski
Senior Legislative Aide
State Representative Kirk Schuring
Speaker Pro Tempore
77 South High Street, 14th Floor
Columbus, Ohio 43215
614-752-2438



From: Lacey White

Sent: Thursday, August 24, 2017 11:39 AM

To: Zielinski, Justin

Subject: ALEC Legislative Staff Fellowship

Attachments: Legislative Staff Fellowship Flyer.pdf; Legislative Staff Fellowship Application With Description.pdf

Follow Up Flag: Follow up

Flag Status: Completed

Hi Justin,

My name is Lacey White and I am the Policy Coordinator at the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC). I received your contact information from another legislative staffer that recently participated in ALEC's Legislative Staff Fellowship. We are currently recruiting for our next class, and I wanted to reach out to see if you would be interested in participating. I have included a brief description of the program below and have also attached the program application.

The ALEC Legislative Staff Fellowship consists of a series of online educational sessions (beginning in October) and a three-day, intensive program of training and networking with legislative staff members from around the country. Attendees can expect to hear from ALEC policy directors, experts and scholars on a number of different policy issues and discuss the ideas presented with fellow participants. The purpose of the training is to promote holistic development (philosophical, policy and professional) of attendees and help them to promote the ideals of free markets and limited government throughout their careers as legislative staffers.

The fellowship includes the cost of hotel stay, meals and registration for the meeting, and allows for up to \$500.00 in travel reimbursements after the meeting.

We currently have open enrollment for ALEC's State and Nation Policy Summit in Nashville, Tennessee on December 6th-8th, 2017.

We would love to have you join us. Please let me know if you have any further questions and feel free to share this opportunity with any other legislative staffers you know that may be interested!

Best,
Lacey

Lacey White

Policy Coordinator

571.482.5026

American Legislative Exchange Council

2900 Crystal Drive, Suite 600

Arlington, VA 22202

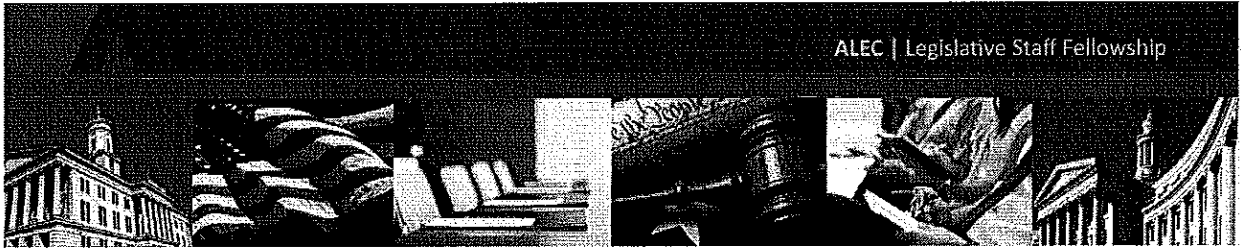


Upcoming Meetings:

2017 States and Nation Policy Summit – December 6-8, 2017 – Nashville, Tennessee

2018 Spring Task Force Summit – April 27, 2018 – Grand Rapids, Michigan

2018 Annual Meeting – August 8-10, 2018 – New Orleans, Louisiana



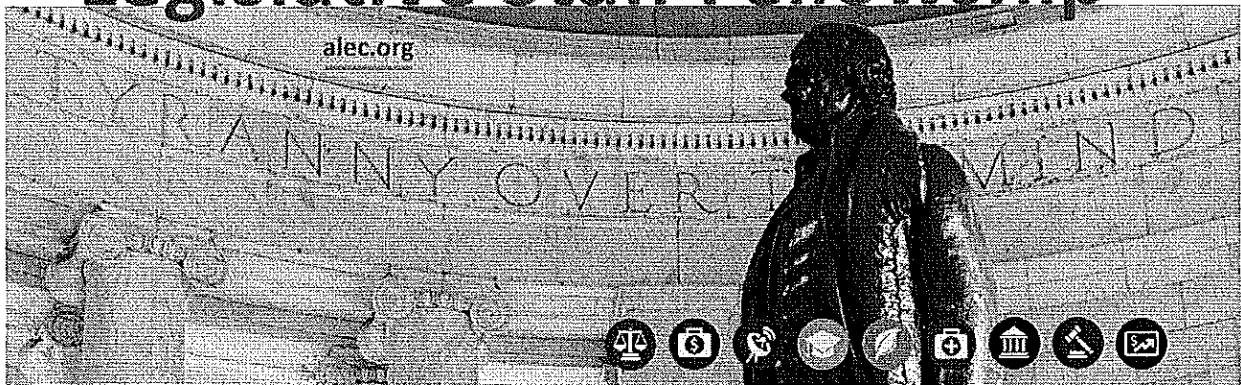
"Educate and inform the whole mass of the people... They are the only sure reliance for the preservation of our liberty."

— Thomas Jefferson

American
Legislative
Exchange
Council

2900 Crystal Drive, Suite 600
Arlington, VA 22202
TEL 703.373.0933 • FAX 703.373.0927
www.alec.org

Legislative Staff Fellowship



Mission: To advance limited government, free markets and federalism

The Legislative Staff Fellowship provides participants the tools necessary to be successful in their careers, learn about free market principles and build lasting relationships with peers from around the country.

Key Features Include:

- Professional Development and Training
- Peer-to-Peer and Vertical Networking
- Policy Discussion, Dissection and Analysis

To learn more about the program, please contact Lacey White, ALEC Policy Coordinator, at lwhite@alec.org or 571-482-5026.

Now accepting applications for ALEC States and Nation Policy Summit.
Download the application below.



> December 6–8, 2017 - Nashville, Tennessee




"Attending the ALEC legislative staff training provided me with the skills and tools essential to promoting the conservative fundamentals of limited government, free markets and federalism."

— Jordan Taylor, Texas House of Representatives

ALEC American
Legislative
Exchange
Council
LIMITED GOVERNMENT • FREE MARKETS • FEDERALISM

For more information or to download an application, please visit: www.alec.org/stafffellowship

 Download Application



American
Legislative
Exchange
Council

LIMITED GOVERNMENT • FREE MARKETS • FEDERALISM

Legislative Staff Training Application

Thank you for applying to the American Legislative Exchange Council's Legislative Staff Training. Please answer the following questions. Once you have completed the survey please attach your resume and a biography and send to Lacey White, Policy Coordinator, at lwhite@alec.org. If you have any questions please email or call Lacey at (571) 482-5026.

Program Description

The American Legislative Exchange Council's Legislative Staff Training consists of a series of on-line educational sessions and a three-day, intensive program of training and networking with peers from around the country. Attendees can expect to hear from ALEC task force directors, experts and scholars on a number of different policy issues and have discussions and debates over the presentations with fellow participants. Overall, this program is designed to promote holistic development (philosophical, policy, and professional) of attendees and help them to promote the ideals of free markets and limited government throughout their careers.

Name:

Legislative Sponsor:

Job Title:

State:

Email:

Role: Caucus Staff:

Member Staff:

District Staff:

Committee:

If "Other," please describe:

Legislature Type: Part-Time:

Seasonal:

Full-Time:

What is your highest level of education completed?:

Associates:

Bachelors:

Masters:

Doctorate:

Degree:

How long have you worked in a legislature? (Years and Months):



Please list at least one referral from an ALEC member to be contacted regarding your application.

Referral 1

Name:

Organization:

State:

Phone Number:

Email Address:

Referral 2

Name:

Organization:

State:

Phone Number:

Email Address:

Referral 3

Name:

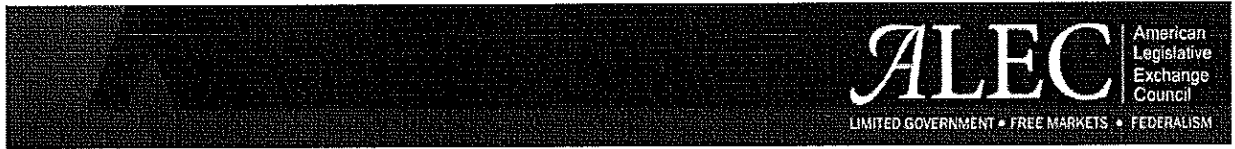
Organization:

State:

Phone Number:

Email Address:

We currently have open enrollment for the ALEC States and Nation Policy Summit in Nashville, TN from December 6-8, 2017. If you are interested in attending a future ALEC Legislative Staff Fellowship session, please contact Lacey White, ALEC Policy Coordinator, at LWhite@alec.org.



1) What is a work skill or non-policy topic that you are interested in learning and why?

2) What policy topics are you most interested in learning about and why?

A large, empty rectangular box with a thin black border, intended for the user to provide their answer to question 2. The box is currently blank.



3) Describe your thoughts on the role of the legislative staffer in advancing Limited Government, Free Markets and Federalism.

4) What is a pressing public policy issue in your state and what do you think is a policy solution to remedy the problem?

From: Susan Carleson

Sent: Tuesday, December 19, 2017 9:22 AM

To: Zielinski, Justin

Subject: ACRU Election Integrity Bulletin: ACRU hosts voting policy and legislative seminar at ALEC

Email not displaying correctly? [View it in your browser.](#)

The American
Civil Rights Union



Voting
Integrity
Institute

The ACRU hosted a voting integrity policy and legislative seminar at the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) winter conference. More details found at the [ACRU Election Integrity Bulletin](#).

LEAD

ACRU Focus: Legislators Not Shy in Pushing 'Model' Bills

At the behest of the American Civil Rights Union, legislators across the nation who belong to the American Legislative Exchange Council could be sponsoring bills in the next couple of years requiring local election commissions to take a closer look at people who miss jury duty. "All we want is honest voting," says Susan Carleson, chairman and CEO of the American Civil Rights Union, which put on a voter integrity

seminar during the ALEC 2017 States & Nation Policy Summit held at Nashville's Omni Hotel.

STATES

Florida: Experts: Broward's elections chief broke law in destroying ballots

The election supervisor in Florida's second-most populous county broke the law by destroying ballots cast in last year's congressional primary.

North Carolina: 12 indicted in Alamance County for voting as felons

Police in North Carolina are seeking people accused of voting in the 2016 general election while still on felony probation or post-release supervision. A grand jury had indicted 12 people for violating state election laws.

New York: Developers Sentenced To Prison for Voter Fraud

A federal judge sentenced a developer to ten months in prison, a year of supervised release, 400 hours of community service and a \$20,000 fine, for the fraudulent registration of voters.

Wisconsin: After Report, GOP leaders of Legislature Calling for Ethics and Elections Leaders to resign

The fate of Wisconsin's Elections and Ethics commission administrators may come down to a highly unusual and dramatic vote in the state Senate. Senate Majority

Leader Scott Fitzgerald says if they don't resign, he will schedule a vote next month to reject their confirmation.

West Virginia: New voter ID law coming to the Mountain State

= A

A new voter ID law will soon be going into effect in West Virginia. Beginning January 1, the state's new voter ID law will be going into effect.

REDISTRICTING

Supreme Court agrees to hear Maryland redistricting case

The Supreme Court said that it will hear a challenge to Maryland's congressional districts brought by seven Republican voters who say the state's 2011 redistricting violated their First Amendment rights.

The American Civil Rights Union

Share this message with a friend

3213 Duke St., #625

Alexandria, VA 22314

<http://www.theacru.org>

<http://www.votingintegrityinstitute.org>

= 9

Unsubscribe

= 9

From: We Are Ohio
Sent: Tuesday, December 19, 2017 4:02 PM
To: Zielinski, Justin
Subject: Say No To Anti-Worker Legislation

Unsubscribe

It appears that you have subscribed to commercial messages from this sender. To stop receiving such messages from this sender, please [unsubscribe](#)



= A

December 19, 2017

Dear Speaker Pro Tempore Schuring,

As Chairman of We Are Ohio, I am writing to ask you not to sign on as a co-sponsor to Representative John Becker's anti-worker legislation and to oppose Rep. Becker's efforts to hurt working families in your district and across Ohio.

Rep. Becker, we believe, is pursuing an anti-worker agenda pushed by out-of-state interests like the Koch brothers, Americans for Prosperity and the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC).

He has outlined six separate constitutional amendments that are all designed to hurt workers, lower wages, decrease safety in the workplace and cause further economic insecurity for the people that you serve.

= 9On behalf of We Are Ohio, I'm asking you to stand for workers in your district and our state and to stand against these out-of-state parties. I'm sure you would agree that Ohio elected officials should represent the people of Ohio, not out of state interests.

We Are Ohio was formed in 2011 when a similar threat to workers' security was passed by the Ohio General Assembly and signed into law by Governor Kasich. We asked the citizens to veto Senate Bill 5 that year and restore collective bargaining rights to public sector employees, and they responded with historic numbers.

Nearly 1.3 million Ohioans signed petitions to put the citizens veto on the ballot, 17,000 Ohioans volunteered for the campaign and, on Election Day, 2.1 million Ohioans voted to veto Senate Bill 5 by a 62-38 margin.

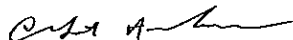
We Are Ohio has remained a force since then. We have held meetings all across the state, have a huge online presence and maintain a database and email list of nearly 1 million voters who agreed with us in 2011.

We believe that the prudent course here is for the legislature to steer away from any anti-worker laws, amendments or ballot initiatives and we ask for your support.

Governor Kasich has acknowledged that such legislation does not attract business to our great state.

I'm respectfully asking you to tell Representative Becker that his ideas are harmful and divisive and that we don't want history to repeat itself.

Sincerely,



= 9Christopher Mabe
Chairman - We Are Ohio

We Are Ohio

545 E. Town St.

Columbus, OH 43215

= A

If you believe you received this message in error or wish to no longer receive email from us, please [unsubscribe](#).

From: Zielinski, Justin
Sent: Tuesday, December 19, 2017 4:05 PM
To: Rep48
Subject: FW: Say No To Anti-Worker Legislation

From: We Are Ohio [mailto:bounce@bounce.myngp.com] **On Behalf Of** We Are Ohio
Sent: Tuesday, December 19, 2017 4:02 PM
To: Zielinski, Justin <Justin.Zielinski@ohiohouse.gov>
Subject: Say No To Anti-Worker Legislation

Unsubscribe

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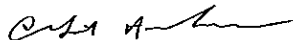
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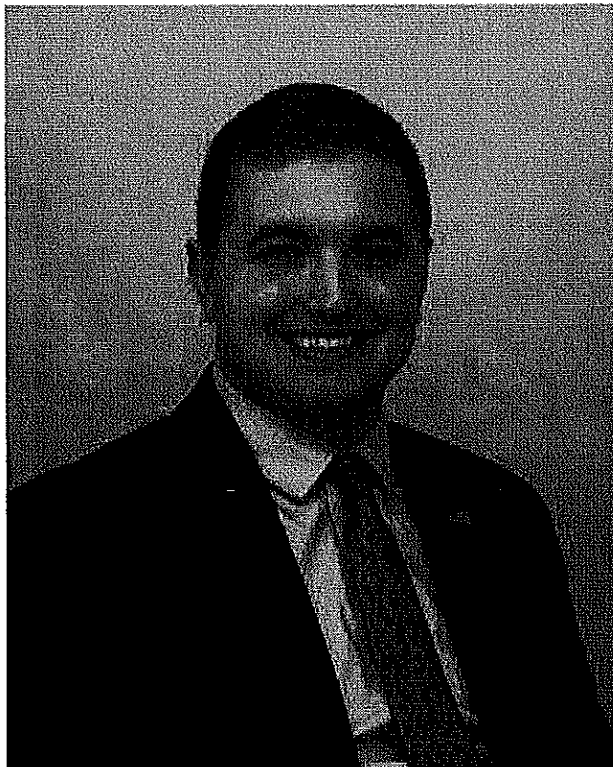
We Are Ohio
545 E. Town St.
Columbus, OH 43215

If you believe you received this message in error or wish to no longer receive email from us, please [unsubscribe](#).

From: Fleck, Craig
Sent: Friday, June 22, 2018 3:42 PM
To: GOP_All
Subject: New GOP Additions

WELCOME

When you get a free minute, please make sure to introduce yourself and welcome the newest members of our team.



Tyler Herrmann, Deputy Legal Counsel / Policy Advisor

Tyler is from Harrison, Ohio and holds a Juris Doctorate from the University of Cincinnati and a Political Science degree from Wright State University. Tyler served in the United States Air Force as an Operations Intelligence Analyst NCO and currently serves as a JAG Attorney for the United States Army. He currently presides as the Chairman for the Ohio Chapter of the Republican National Lawyers Association, and as the Treasurer for the Cap City Young

Republicans. Tyler transferred to the House from the Attorney General's Office where he served as an Assistant Attorney General within the Executive Agencies Section.

James Kennedy, LA Merrin



James is from Palm City, Florida and an alum of Florida Atlantic University where he graduated with a degree in Political Science. While in college he had the opportunity to serve as a Tax and Fiscal Policy Intern for the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC). James has an extensive research background serving as a Legal Research Analyst Intern for the Buckeye Institute and as a Political-Military Analyst Intern for the Hudson Institute. Prior to arriving to the House, he served as a Legislative Assistant for the Tennessee Legislation Service in Nashville. In James' free time, he enjoys collecting sports memorabilia and claims to have personally met nearly every

major league baseball
superstar.

Lauren Reid, LA Butler



Lauren is from Madison, Connecticut, and recently graduated from the University of Dayton with degrees in Criminal Justice and Political Science with a minor in Spanish. While at Dayton, she served as a Statehouse Civic Scholar, where she was assigned an internship working for the Governor's communication team. Lauren had the unique experience of traveling to Segovia, Spain, where she participated in a four-week immersion program. During the winter months whenever she gets the opportunity, she enjoys to snowmobile.

Craig Fleck

Deputy Administrative Officer
Ohio House of Representatives
77 South High Street, 12th Floor

Columbus, Ohio 43215

Cell: 440.376.6098

Office: 614.466.2175

Craig.fleck@ohiohouse.gov

From: Flasher, Kim
Sent: Friday, July 13, 2018 3:19 PM
To: House_All
Subject: Legislative Conferences and Travel
Attachments: Travel Request Form.docx

Memo to: All House Members

From: Speaker Ryan Smith

Date: July 13, 2018

Re: Legislative Conferences Annual Meetings

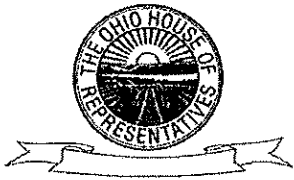
As you may know, the Ohio General Assembly pays dues to several National Legislative Conferences such as NCSL, CSG, and ALEC. As these organizations begin holding their annual meetings, several of you may be interested in attending.

In the past, the House has allowed a limited number of Members to attend with a set expenditure reimbursement from the State permitted. This year, the House will approve any Member who would like to attend ONE national meeting and will cover the conference registration fees. The Member is liable for all remaining expenses. Such expenses may be covered through personal or campaign funds.

It is advised that you consult with your caucus Legal Counsel before utilizing campaign funds toward any travel.

If you would like to register for one of the annual meetings, please complete the attached "Request for Travel Form" and return it to Kim Flasher in the Administrative Office.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Kim. Thank you.



TRAVEL REQUEST FORM

Traveler _____ Today's Date _____

*I have attached a copy of the conference Itinerary and associated registration fees
for review.*

Conference _____

Conference

Location _____

Date Conference Begins _____ Date Conference Ends _____

Request to travel approved:
by:

Expenses to be reimbursed

Representatives
Kim Flasher, Chief Administrative Officer

House of

Service Commission
Date

Legislative

From: Ingram, Catherine
Sent: Friday, July 13, 2018 4:31 PM
To: Flasher, Kim; House_All
Subject: Re: Legislative Conferences and Travel

Is this message in regard to only the annual meeting or does it also refer to any other event sponsored by said organizations?

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

----- Original message -----

From: "Flasher, Kim" <Kim.Flasher@ohiohouse.gov>
Date: 7/13/18 3:18 PM (GMT-05:00)
To: House_All <House_All@ohiohouse.gov>
Subject: Legislative Conferences and Travel

Memo to: All House Members
From: Speaker Ryan Smith
Date: July 13, 2018
Re: Legislative Conferences Annual Meetings

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If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Kim. Thank you.

From: Flasher, Kim
Sent: Friday, July 13, 2018 9:53 PM
To: Ingram, Catherine
CC: House_All
Subject: Re: Legislative Conferences and Travel

Representative Ingram,

Thank you for the question. This applies to all travel.

Have a good weekend,

Kim

Sent from my iPhone

On Jul 13, 2018, at 4:31 PM, Ingram, Catherine <Catherine.Ingram@ohiohouse.gov> wrote:

Is this message in regard to only the annual meeting or does it also refer to any other event sponsored by said organizations?

Sent from my T-Mobile 4G LTE Device

----- Original message -----

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If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me or Kim. Thank you.

From: BioOhio
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 11:56 AM
To: Zielinski, Justin
Subject: BioOhio BioBulletin, March

Having trouble viewing this email? [Click here](#)

BioBulletin: March 2017



Celebrating 30 years supporting Ohio's bioscience community

Welcome to the March edition of the BioOhio BioBulletin!

March Trivia focuses on America's favorite March activity: watching basketball. **\$4B:** Corporate losses due to unproductive workers during March Madness; **\$9.2B:** Estimated amount wagered on the 2016 NCAA tournament; **70M:** Tournament brackets completed in 2016; **2X:** It's 2 times easier to win back-to-back Mega Millions lotteries, buying one ticket both times, than it is to fill out a perfect bracket. It's true what they say... March really is madness.

In this issue

- * BioOhio Annual Conference and 30th Anniversary Celebration
- * BioOhio Networking Social in Columbus

- * [Events Calendar](#)
- * [Membership](#)
- * [Ohio Bioscience News](#)
- * [Member Savings](#)
- * [Job Openings](#)
- * [Government Relations](#)



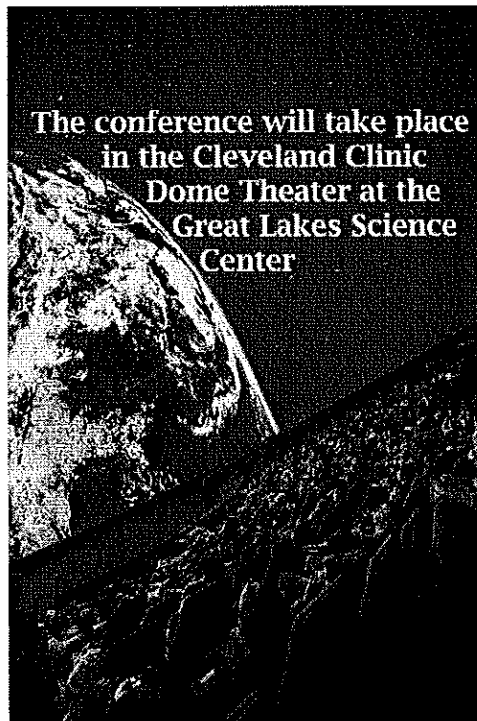
BioOhio is excited to celebrate our 30th Anniversary back in Cleveland where we were founded in 1987.

The 2017 BioOhio Annual Conference and 30th Anniversary Celebration will be a celebration of statewide growth in all areas of bioscience, from medical devices, pharmaceuticals, lab equipment, and regenerative medicine, to agricultural compounds, alternative fuels, wellness products, clinical research, digital health, and wearables.

The two-day event kicks off with tours at Progressive Field, home of the American League Champs, the Cleveland Indians! Featuring stops at Heritage Park, the Right Field District & Corner Bar, and the Home Plate Club, as well as a look at the Batting Cages, Home Dugout, Warning Track, Press Box and Visitor's Clubhouse.



The Progressive Field Tours will be followed by a networking reception at Wild Eagle Saloon, featuring several self-serve draft beer walls and a variety of activities that will inspire fun competition like bocce ball, arcade games, pool, darts, skee-ball and more.



Our venue on the 24th, the Great Lakes Science Center, was established to make science, technology, engineering and math come alive; and during the Conference, it will come alive with excitement and success. Attendees will experience different parts of the Center as breakfast, networking breaks, lunch, and a reception move around this unique facility.

Come join us to celebrate what Ohio's bioscience community has become, engage with friends, make new connections, and set our sights on where the industry is headed.

[Click here](#) to view the agenda, and [click here](#) to register.



BioOhio Networking Social

May 18 in Columbus at



sponsored by



oswald

Join us to celebrate
BioOhio's 30th
Anniversary!



BioOhio.com/events/socials

2017 marks BioOhio's 30th anniversary, and we will be celebrating all year long! BioOhio's fun socials bring Ohio's bioscience players together for networking, talking shop, and getting to know one another in a casual atmosphere.

BioOhio's third social of the year will be held in Columbus at Woodland's Backyard. A local fixture, the venue features mini bowling, plenty of pool tables and arcade games, a spacious patio, and 30 taps pouring a rotating selection the finest craft and domestic brews.

Complimentary hors d'oeuvres for all guests; 1 drink ticket for BioOhio members, and that includes employees of member organizations.

[Click here](#) to register.

Events Calendar

March 29 - Webinar: Bioskills and Its Role in Product Development
 March 29 - Webinar: "Microbiome: Hope or Hype"
 March 29-30 - Advanced Manufacturing Conference & Expo (*Attendance is free with the code CLEVELANDGUEST*)
 March 29 - MedDevCLE Meetup at the Advanced Design & Manufacturing Show (Cleveland)
 March 30 - Scientist Solutions presents A Life Science Vendor Show (Columbus)
 April 4-5 - BIO Legislative Day Fly-In 2017 (Washington, DC)
 April 5 - Ohio Health Information Technology Day 2017 (Columbus)
 April 6 - Neuroscience Symposium at Kent State University (Kent)
 April 19-20 - Course: From Sensors to Wearables to Health Monitoring (Cleveland)
 April 23-24 - BioOhio Annual Conference and 30th Anniversary Celebration (Cleveland)
 April 24-28 - OHTec Tech Week 2017 (Cleveland)
 April 25-26 - The Medical Capital Innovation Competition (Cleveland)
 April 26-28 - MDMA 2017 Annual Meeting (Washington, DC) (*BioOhio Members are eligible for a \$100 discount off the nonmember rate*)
 May 2 - Regulatory Pathways and the Science of Sterilization Forum (Lebanon)
 May 2-5 - MedCon 2017 presented by Xavier Health (Cincinnati)
 May 4-6 - 2017 Derby Partnering Summit (Covington, KY) (*Students can attend the Derby Partnering Summit for free*)
 May 4-6 - Weinstein Cardiovascular Development Conference 2017 (Columbus)
 May 15-17 - National SBIR/STTR Conference 2017 (Washington, DC)
 May 17-18 - MedCity Invest 2017 (Chicago, IL)
 May 18 - BioOhio Networking Social (Columbus)
 May 31-June 1 - ChinaBio Partnering Forum (China)
 June 1 - ProMedica Innovations Summit (Toledo)
 June 15 - BioOhio FDA Regulatory Forum: Critical Medical Device Updates 2017 presented by R&Q (Cleveland)
 June 19-22 - BIO International Convention 2017 (San Diego, CA)
 June 26-27 - Cell Culture and Cell Therapy: Bioprocessing Conference (Philadelphia) (*BioOhio members are eligible for a 20% discount*)

If you're hosting a bioscience-related event and would like BioOhio's help in promoting it, let us know here.

Membership

We are also pleased to welcome Square 1 Bank, Tedia Company, VetGraft, and student Griffin Rial as the newest members of BioOhio!

Thank you to the following companies who renewed their BioOhio membership this month: [Abeona Therapeutics](#), [Chubb Group of Insurance Companies](#), [Cleveland FES Center](#), [Crystal Diagnostics](#), [Image IQ](#), [Novo Nordisk](#), [PMC SMART Solutions](#), [Skoda Minotti](#), [Tunnell Consulting](#), [Valtronic](#), and BioOhio Board Member [Peter Kleinhenz](#).

As always, thanks to the entire [BioOhio member family](#) that continues to support our efforts.

Everything we do is driven by member requests. [Click here](#) to learn about the many benefits and resources available, whether you are currently a member or thinking about joining.

Ohio Bioscience News

From the BioOhio Blog

- [Ohio Legislative Update](#) for March 2017
- [Ohio Legislative Update Part 2](#) for March 2017
- [National Legislative Update](#) for March 2017
- [Valtronic Celebrates 35 Years](#) Improving Medical Devices
- [The Expansion of the R&D Tax Credit](#)
- [The CURES Act](#): What it is and what it means to you!

Ohio bioscience growing strong

- [Aerpio Pharmaceuticals](#) [raised \\$40M](#), completes reverse merger
- [P&C Pharma](#) helps patients easily consume medicine
- [Cincinnati brain injury startup Sense Diagnostics](#) nabs [\\$1.3M investment](#)
- [Cardinal Health](#) [bidding on Medtronic](#) medical-supplies business
- [Soin Neuroscience](#) to launch pharmaceutical business in Dayton
- [Health IT startup InXite Health Systems](#) to [add 163 new jobs](#)
- [Anatrace](#) acquires [Molecular Dimensions](#), a UK biotech firm
- [Rekovo](#), a startup [turning rehab into digital art](#), lands huge customer
- [Xact Medical](#) uses robotics and ultrasound to guide and insert needles, more [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#)
- [Airway Therapeutics](#) just [raised \\$6.3M](#) for R&D to treat premature babies, more [here](#)
- [Why Navidea's looking ahead](#) to entrepreneurial life after [deal with Cardinal Health](#)
- [Eccrine Systems](#) makes list of 50 most promising startups in the world
- [TSS Technologies](#) to [add 150 jobs](#) in southwest Ohio

- What [CoverMyMeds' success](#) can teach older industries

Research and discovery continues in Ohio

- Abeona Therapeutics on [WKYC3 \(video\)](#)
- Trailhead Biosystems on [Cleveland 19 News \(video\)](#)
- [Charles River](#) and [BioMotiv](#) discuss creative business models in drug discovery
- Scott Novak to head new Battelle research program on [opioid addiction and treatment](#)
- BioMotiv launches [Nynex Therapeutics](#), targets oncogenic proteins in cancer treatment
- First implant of Medtronic Harmony [transcatheter pulmonary valve](#) in clinical study at Nationwide Children's Hospital
- Genetesis identifies heart issues using [magnetic fields](#)
- Abeona Therapeutics receives [EU Orphan Drug designation](#) for gene therapy clinical trial
- [Atumate](#) bridges the gap between science & technology

Don't miss these stories

- CWRU School of Medicine ranked [#1](#) by U.S. News & World Report
- [Mike Hooven](#), founder of AtriCure exits the board, company names [two new](#) members
- Cincinnati Children's Hospital [massive expansion](#), up to \$650M investment, 600 jobs
- SmartShape's founder just [felt like walking](#) (and walking and walking and walking...)
- BIO launches [DrugCostFacts.org](#) to show the facts on drug costs
- Hyland named a [Best Company to Work For](#) by Fortune magazine
- [SciTech profile](#), Academic Expertise & Commercial Innovation in Central Ohio

Member Savings



Since 2001, The Center for Professional Innovation and Education (CfPIE) has embraced a singular goal-providing the highest quality education to bioscience professionals. Today, as the global leader in quality life sciences training, they offer the largest range of course options for professional development in the pharmaceutical, medical device, and biotechnology disciplines.

BioOhio has arranged a 15% discount on industry leading skills training courses offered by CfPIE. Courses include specialized education in pharmaceutical, medical device, and biotechnology disciplines. For specifics on exclusive savings available to you through CfPIE, [click here](#).

[Click here](#) to read about all our member savings programs.

Job Openings

Tosoh SMD - Commodities Manager

Visit TosohAmerica.com to learn more, and [click here](#) to apply online.

Valtronic - Electrical Engineering Manager

Visit Valtronic.com to learn more, and send resumes to hруса@valtronic.com.

Do you have job openings at your company you would like to post in the BioOhio BioBulletin? Please email [Lauren Reitz](#) the job title and how to apply. BioOhio members only. Job postings will be displayed in two BioBulletins unless instructed to take it down.

Government Relations

As the Ohio affiliate of AdvaMed, BIO, MDMA and PhRMA, BioOhio participates in advocacy for issues that matter to our members, our industry and the health and prosperity of Ohio.

- [Ohio Legislative Update for March 2017](#)
- [Ohio Legislative Update Part 2 for March 2017](#)
- [National Legislative Update for March 2017](#)
- [US Army Regenerative Medicine Opportunity](#)
- [The CURES Act: What it is and what it means to you!](#)
- Our national partner BIO has launched [DrugCostFacts.org](#) to help healthcare stakeholders gain a better understanding of the true facts surrounding drug costs, spending and value.

Medical Devices & CMS Reimbursement

Action item: [G2G & AdvaMed](#) are collecting stories of challenges faced in obtaining CMS reimbursement for your medical devices, diagnostics and biotechnologies in order to get the Ensuring Patient Access to Critical Breakthrough Products Act re-introduced. For more information contact Liz Powell at lpowell@g2gconsulting.com.

Federal Fly-In Opportunities

Once a year, BIO hosts the [Legislative Day Fly-In](#), inviting biotechnology executives from across the country to come to Washington D.C. for a day and a half of legislative briefings and advocacy.

BIO's 2017 Fly-In will occur April 4-5, 2017, and we are looking forward to another great day of engaging with Members of Congress and their senior staff on the most important legislative issues facing the biotechnology industry.

[Click here](#) for more information and registration details. It is always our goal to make the BIO Fly-in as easy as possible for our visiting attendees; please do not hesitate to contact us with questions.

We hope you've enjoyed this edition of the BioOhio BioBulletin. You received this because of your interest in Ohio bioscience; your organization is a BioOhio member, you have a connection to the bioscience industry, you've attended an event, or you've requested to engage with us. If you'd like to be more involved with BioOhio, reach out to any BioOhio staff member. We look forward to hearing from you!

Contact us anytime we can be of assistance. Thanks for your continued support.

John F. Lewis, Jr.
BioOhio, President & CEO
(614) 675-3686 x1262
jlewis@bioohio.com

STAY CONNECTED:



BioOhio, 1275 Kinnear Rd., Columbus, OH 43212

[SafeUnsubscribe™](#) justin.zielinski@ohiohouse.gov

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Sent by bioohio@bioohio.com in collaboration with



Try it free today

From: BioOhio
Sent: Tuesday, March 28, 2017 11:56 AM
To: Zielinski, Justin
Subject: BioOhio BioBulletin, March

Having trouble viewing this email? [Click here](#)

BioBulletin: March 2017



Celebrating 30 years supporting Ohio's bioscience community

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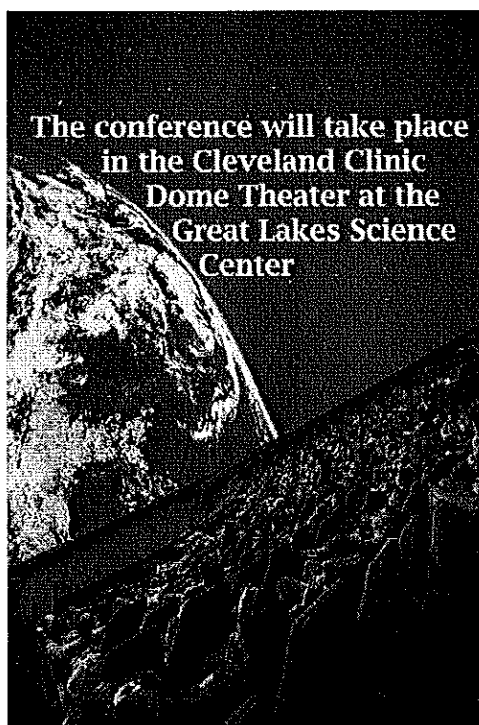
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Our venue on the 24th, the Great Lakes Science Center, was established to make science, technology, engineering and math come alive; and during the Conference, it will come alive with excitement and success. Attendees will experience different parts of the Center as breakfast, networking breaks, lunch, and a reception move around this unique facility.

Come join us to celebrate what Ohio's bioscience community has become, engage with friends, make new connections, and set our sights on where the industry is headed.

[Click here](#) to view the agenda, and [click here](#) to register.



BioOhio Networking Social

May 18 in Columbus at



sponsored by



Join us to celebrate
BioOhio's 30th
Anniversary!



BioOhio.com/events/socials

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Complimentary hors d'oeuvres for all guests; 1 drink ticket for BioOhio members, and that includes employees of member organizations.

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As always, thanks to the entire [BioOhio member family](#) that continues to support our efforts.

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- [The CURES Act](#): What it is and what it means to you!

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- [P&C Pharma](#) helps patients easily consume medicine
- Cincinnati brain injury startup [Sense Diagnostics](#) nabs [\\$1.3M investment](#)
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- [Soin Neuroscience](#) to launch pharmaceutical business in Dayton
- Health IT startup [InXite Health Systems](#) to [add 163 new jobs](#)
- [Anatrace](#) acquires [Molecular Dimensions](#), a UK biotech firm
- [Rekovo](#), a startup [turning rehab into digital art](#), lands huge customer
- [Xact Medical](#) uses robotics and ultrasound to guide and insert needles, more [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#)
- [Airway Therapeutics](#) just [raised \\$6.3M](#) for R&D to treat premature babies, more [here](#)
- [Why Navidea's](#) looking ahead to entrepreneurial life after [deal with Cardinal Health](#)
- [Eccrine Systems](#) makes list of 50 most promising startups in the world
- [TSS Technologies](#) to [add 150 jobs](#) in southwest Ohio

- What [CoverMyMeds' success](#) can teach older industries

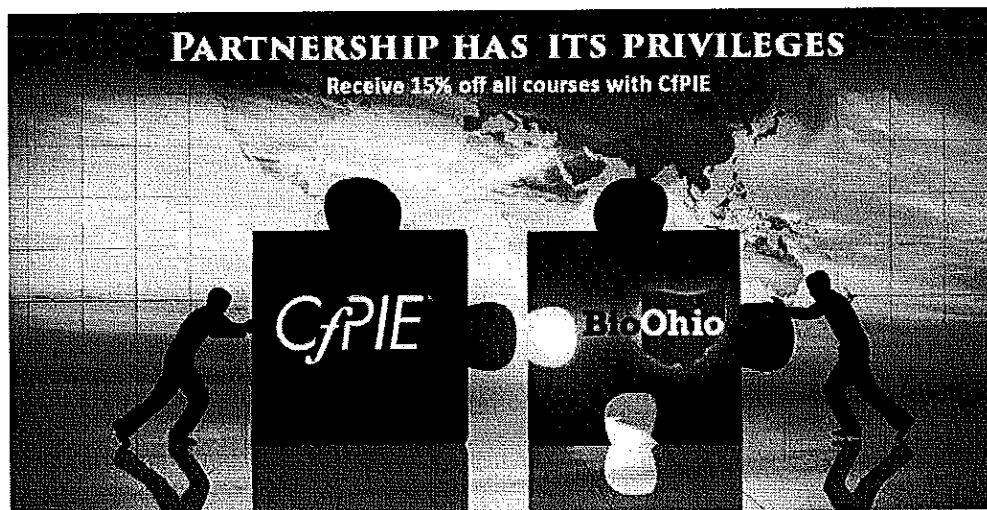
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- Hyland named a [Best Company to Work For](#) by Fortune magazine
- [SciTech profile](#), Academic Expertise & Commercial Innovation in Central Ohio

Member Savings



Since 2001, The Center for Professional Innovation and Education ([CfPIE](#)) has embraced a singular goal-providing the highest quality education to bioscience professionals. Today, as the global leader in quality life sciences training, they offer the largest range of course options for professional development in the pharmaceutical, medical device, and biotechnology disciplines.

BioOhio has arranged a 15% discount on industry leading skills training courses offered by CfPIE. Courses include specialized education in pharmaceutical, medical device, and biotechnology disciplines. For specifics on exclusive savings available to you through CfPIE, [click here](#).

[Click here](#) to read about all our member savings programs.

Job Openings

Tosoh SMD - Commodities Manager

Visit TosohAmerica.com to learn more, and [click here](#) to apply online.

Valtronic - Electrical Engineering Manager

Visit Valtronic.com to learn more, and send resumes to hруса@valtronic.com.

Do you have job openings at your company you would like to post in the BioOhio BioBulletin? Please email [Lauren Reitz](#) the job title and how to apply. BioOhio members only. Job postings will be displayed in two BioBulletins unless instructed to take it down.

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Action item: G2G & AdvaMed are collecting stories of challenges faced in obtaining CMS reimbursement for your medical devices, diagnostics and biotechnologies in order to get the Ensuring Patient Access to Critical Breakthrough Products Act re-introduced. For more information contact Liz Powell at lpowell@g2gconsulting.com.

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[Click here](#) for more information and registration details. It is always our goal to make the BIO Fly-in as easy as possible for our visiting attendees; please do not hesitate to contact us with questions.

We hope you've enjoyed this edition of the BioOhio BioBulletin. You received this because of your interest in Ohio bioscience, your organization is a BioOhio member, you have a connection to the bioscience industry, you've attended an event, or you've requested to engage with us. If you'd like to be more involved with BioOhio, reach out to any BioOhio staff member. We look forward to hearing from you!

Contact us anytime we can be of assistance. Thanks for your continued support.

John F. Lewis, Jr.
BioOhio, President & CEO
(614) 675-3686 x1262
jlewis@bioohio.com

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BioBulletin: March 2017



Celebrating 30 years supporting Ohio's bioscience community

Welcome to the March edition of the BioOhio BioBulletin!

March Trivia focuses on America's favorite March activity: watching basketball. \$4B: Corporate losses due to unproductive workers during March Madness; \$9.2B: Estimated amount wagered on the 2016 NCAA tournament; 70M: Tournament brackets completed in 2016; 2X: It's 2 times easier to win back-to-back Mega Millions lotteries, buying one ticket both times, than it is to fill out a perfect bracket. It's true what they say... March really is madness.

In this issue

- * BioOhio Annual Conference and 30th Anniversary Celebration
- * BioOhio Networking Social in Columbus

- * Events Calendar
- * Membership
- * Ohio Bioscience News
- * Member Savings
- * Job Openings
- * Government Relations



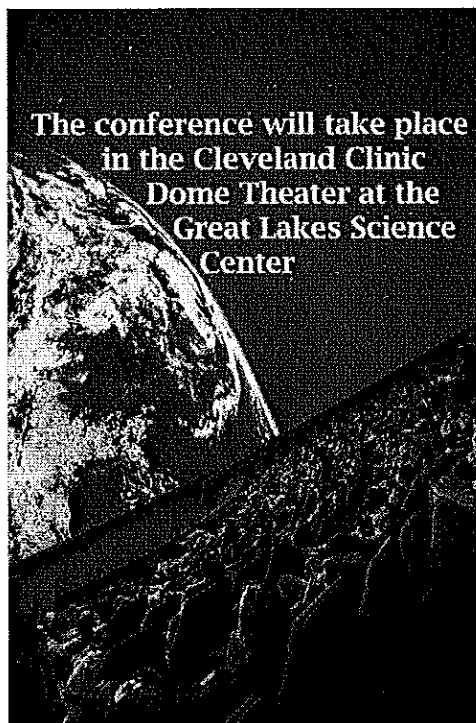
BioOhio is excited to celebrate our 30th Anniversary back in Cleveland where we were founded in 1987.

The 2017 BioOhio Annual Conference and 30th Anniversary Celebration will be a celebration of statewide growth in all areas of bioscience, from medical devices, pharmaceuticals, lab equipment, and regenerative medicine, to agricultural compounds, alternative fuels, wellness products, clinical research, digital health, and wearables.

The two-day event kicks off with tours at Progressive Field, home of the American League Champs, the Cleveland Indians! Featuring stops at Heritage Park, the Right Field District & Corner Bar, and the Home Plate Club, as well as a look at the Batting Cages, Home Dugout, Warning Track, Press Box and Visitor's Clubhouse.



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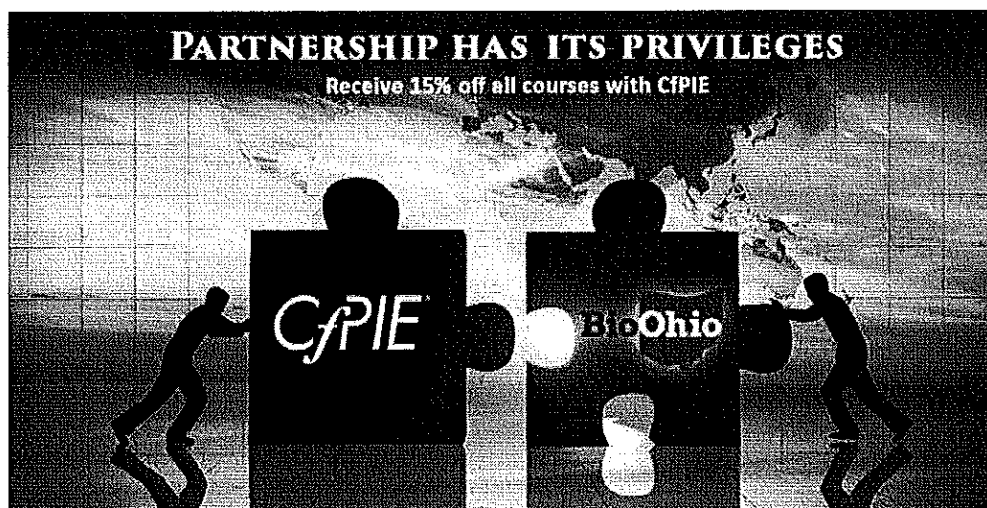
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Contact us anytime we can be of assistance. Thanks for your continued support.

John F. Lewis, Jr.
BioOhio, President & CEO
(614) 675-3686 x1262
jlewis@bioohio.com

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BioOhio, 1275 Kinnear Rd., Columbus, OH 43212

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TOP NEWS March 29, 2017

Kansas moves to expand Medicaid in wake of health care bill failure

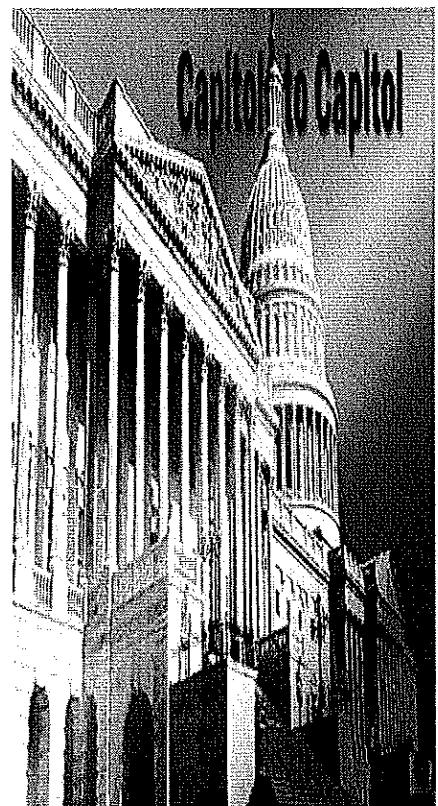
The Washington Post

The abrupt reversal in Kansas could be the front edge of a larger shift nationally, as state lawmakers absorb the repercussions of congressional Republicans' failed attempt to repeal and replace elements of the Affordable Care Act. NCSL resources on Medicaid expansion.

Merging colleges to cut costs and still boost graduation rates

Stateline

Students who apply to Georgia State University no longer receive a rejection letter if they don't get in. Instead, they're invited to enroll in Georgia State's Perimeter College — the former community college that was absorbed by the Atlanta university last year.



Ohio lawmakers want to curb opioid over-prescribing

Dayton Daily News

In the battle against the opioid addiction crisis gripping Ohio, state lawmakers are looking at cracking down on the over-prescribing powerful painkillers.

Dem states pledge climate action in face of Trump roll-back

The Hill

Liberal-leaning states are promising to push forward with aggressive targets for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and developing renewable energy sources just as President Trump moved to roll back much of his predecessor's efforts to combat climate change.

Michigan reaches deal with Flint to replace 18,000 lead-tainted water lines

Associated Press

Flint will replace at least 18,000 lead or galvanized-steel water lines by 2020, and the state will pick up the bill with state and federal money, according to the settlement filed in federal court.

What the unemployment drug testing bill on Trump's desk means for states

Governing

The president is expected to sign legislation that undoes an Obama-era regulation about who can be drug tested. States will likely get more say over the matter, but not just yet. **NCSL data cited.**

= A Capitol to Capitol state-federal newsletter

From the withdrawn health care bill to the potential 'nuclear option' in the Senate, stay up to date with all the news from D.C. in the latest edition of Capitol to Capitol.



Registration open for NCSL Legislative Summit in Boston

Webinar Friday: Keys to an effective, engaging presentation

Webinar Thursday: Retirement woes



A deserved day of remembrance and honor for Vietnam veterans

I am privileged to have been raised in America's heartland—just miles from Fort Riley, Kan.—and to have a Vietnam veteran as a father.

NCSL resources on drug testing for welfare recipients.



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August 3, 2017

New Blog: Four Compelling Facts (and One Excellent Report)

Two weeks ago, United Way of Greater Cleveland unveiled their community assessment. The **report** provides new insight into conditions facing our community by putting indicator data into context.

Older Adults have Lost a Passionate Advocate



We were saddened to learn of the recent passing of **Belle Likover**. Belle was a strong and persistent voice advocating for issues impacting older adults and an active long-time member of the Council on Older Persons, among other community pursuits. Services will be held in Cleveland Heights on Sunday, August 6.

Opportunities and Events

August 7: Core Skills Training for Sex Ed.

In collaboration with the Cuyahoga County Board of Health, The Collaborative for Comprehensive School Age Health will be hosting our first ***Foundations: Core Skills Training for Sex Ed.*** on **August 7, 2017**. *Foundations* is a one-day training created by leaders in the field, **Answer** and **Cardea**. *Foundations* cover important skills, including climate building in the classroom, understanding state and local sex education policies, experiential learning as a pedagogical approach, values exploration, managing personal disclosure and handling challenging questions and harassing comments. Interested in learning more? Contact Collaborative Coordinator, **Shaina Munoz**, smunoz@communitysolutions.com.

August 14: Additional Training on Trauma-Informed Approaches to Sexual Health Education

The Collaborative for Comprehensive School Age Health will host a half-day training on trauma-informed approaches to sexual health education On **August 14**. To learn more or to schedule a training contact Collaborative Coordinator, **Shaina Munoz**, smunoz@communitysolutions.com.

August 25: HSAN Welcomes State Representatives Sarah LaTourette and Emilia Strong Sykes

Community Solutions is pleased to welcome **State Representatives Sarah LaTourette and Emilia Strong Sykes** to the next meeting of the **Human Services Advocacy Network (HSAN)** on **August 25, 2017**, at Lutheran Metropolitan Ministries, located at 4515 Superior Avenue, Cleveland, Ohio 44103. *Registration will open at 9:00 a.m., followed by the meeting beginning promptly at 9:30 a.m.* This event is free to attend and all are welcome. [Click here](#) to register.

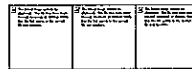
October 20: Celebration of Human Services

Save the date for Community Solutions' **annual Celebration of Human Services** on **Friday**,

October, 20, a half-day program on issues of concern to health, social, education, and economic development professionals, volunteers, and students, as well as public officials and other community leaders in Northeast Ohio. In addition to prestigious community awards, the luncheon program includes the annual W. T. McCullough Lecture by **The Honorable Yvette McGee Brown**, the first African-American woman to serve as a justice on the Franklin County Common Pleas and Ohio Supreme Courts, currently partner and partner-in-charge of Diversity, Inclusion & Advancement at Jones Day (Columbus). **Registration opens September 5.**

CCS in the News

- Community Solutions Research Fellow **Joe Ahern's** column, *Social factors contribute to infant mortality: Joseph Ahern (Opinion)*, was featured on *Cleveland.com*. (7/30/17)
- The Center for Community Solutions *Cleveland's Clark-Fulton neighborhood factsheet* was quoted in *Cleveland.com's* "We Plan CLE tour highlights challenges and aspirations for La Villa Hispana on Cleveland's West Side" (7/28/17)



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Please contact Eboney Thornton with questions or comments at
ethornton@CommunitySolutions.com.***

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Sent: Tuesday, September 5, 2017 5:39 PM

To: Zielinski, Justin

Subject: NCSL Capitol to Capitol: President Trump - "Big week coming up!"

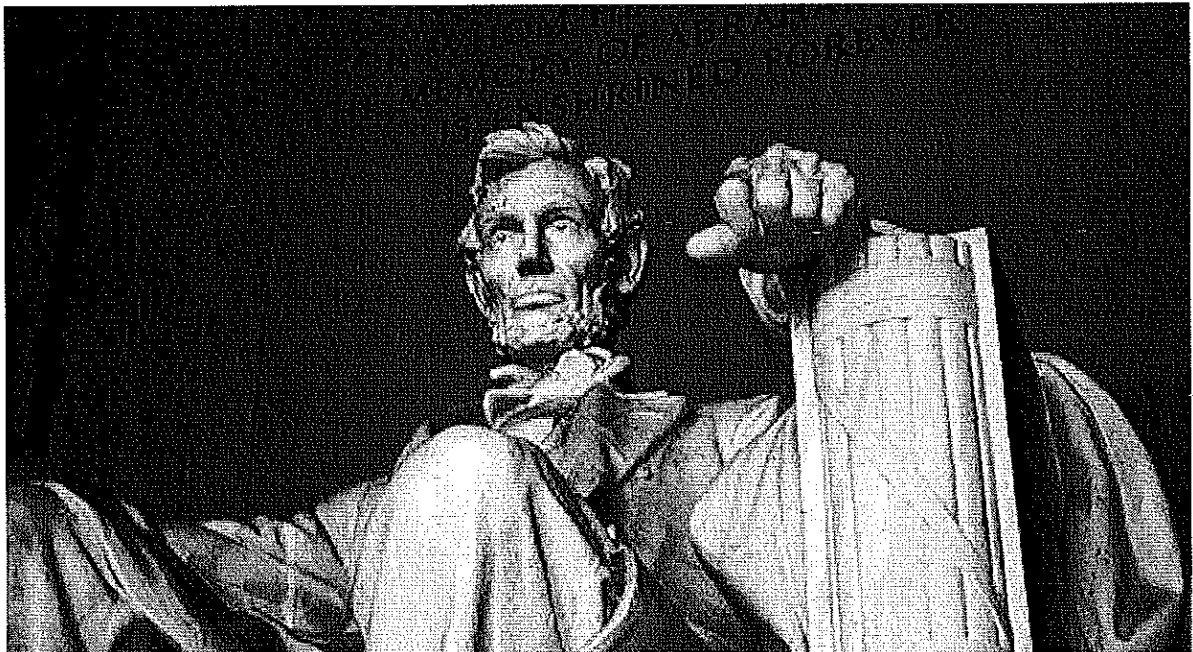
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September 5, 2017

President Trump: "Big week coming up!"

Last night, President Donald Trump tweeted "Big week coming up!" a statement that could easily be applied to every week in September inside the Beltway. Congress returns to Washington today with a daunting "must-do" list for the month that includes passing a budget to stave off a government shutdown; raising the debt limit to avoid a government default; and reauthorizing the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) and the National Flood Insurance Plan (NFIP), and funding for the Children's Health Insurance Plan (CHIP). On top of that, today the administration announced its plans to terminate the Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) program unless congress acts within 6 months. Also this week, the House on Wednesday is expected to take the first of what could be several votes to provide financial assistance to victims of Hurricane Harvey. At the same time, the White House and GOP leaders on Capitol Hill are still pushing to overhaul the tax code before the end of the year. Needless to say, summer has come and passed and it will be a bumpy ride until September ends.

Budget: Government Shuts Down in 26 Days

If Congress fails to pass a funding bill by the end of the fiscal year on Sept. 30, the federal government will shut down. Although the House has already passed four of the 12 spending bills and plans to pass the remaining eight bills in the coming weeks, GOP leaders do not expect the Senate to have enough floor time to consider them, which signals that Congress will look to pass a short term continuing resolution, likely through the end of the calendar year.

Before Congress left town for the August recess, a government shutdown seemed more likely as the president demanded that funds for a border wall be included in any spending package. After Hurricane Harvey devastated Houston and the Gulf Coast, however, there is added pressure on the White House and GOP lawmakers to pass a financial aid package for the region, keep the government open and delay the fight for border wall funding until the next funding battle.

Hurricane Harvey: Last week, during a GOP leadership call organized by House Majority Leader Kevin McCarthy (R-Calif.) to get lawmakers on the same page regarding Hurricane Harvey aid, it was mentioned that the price tag for the storm might exceed the cost of Hurricane Katrina, which cost an estimated \$160 billion in economic damage and cost the federal government roughly \$114.5 billion in

recovery efforts. On Friday, the White House requested an initial \$7.85 billion in emergency relief funding from Congress and then requested another \$6.7 billion as the administration looks to respond to the aftermath of the hurricane.

Debt Limit: Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin has said the absolute last day to raise the debt ceiling is Sept. 29, after which the federal government would default on its spending obligations. In recent years, raising the debt ceiling has become difficult, especially among fiscal conservatives who argue that spending cuts should be included in any package that raises the federal government's borrowing limit. It is unlikely, however, their demands will be met, which means that Republican leaders will need to accommodate the demands of Democrats and moderate Republicans to pass a bill to raise the limit, and/or include the debt ceiling measure in a comprehensive legislative package, including the financial aid package for Hurricane Harvey.

At the moment, it appears that GOP leaders will look to marry a government funding bill, Harvey aid and the debt ceiling into a single measure. Doing so would provide political cover for members of Congress to vote for the package even if they oppose certain provisions, such as raising the debt ceiling. The size, scope, and duration of a comprehensive bill, however, has not yet been discussed publicly, and as they say, the devil is in the details.

NCSL Contacts: Max Behlke, Jake Lestock

DYK? The Wisconsin State Capitol, which is the third capitol building in Madison, turned 100 this year. While the building was completed in 1917, due to World War I, its dedication was delayed for 48 years until 1965.

For more information about the events scheduled this year to celebrate the Capitol Centennial, click here.

-Courtesy of NCSL Vice President, Speaker Robin Vos (Wis.)

Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA)

Early this morning, Trump warned Congress in a tweet to "get ready to do your job – DACA" as his administration prepares to end the program. DACA was initiated in 2012 by the Obama administration for so-called Dreamers, undocumented immigrants that were brought to the U.S. as children. The program allows undocumented children who meet several guidelines to request consideration of deferred action for a period

of two years, subject to renewal; allowed them to be eligible for work authorization; and also protected them from deportation. Roughly 800,000 immigrants have benefited from the program.

The president's tweet signals that he expects Congress to find a solution, especially as Attorney General Jeff Sessions announced this morning at a press conference that the administration will delay shuttering the program for six months. The attorney general, who was a vehement opponent of DACA as a senator, has argued that it is the responsibility of Congress, not the president, to write immigration laws. However, the program has proven to be popular with the public and with a faction of congressional Republicans, which means passing any DACA-related legislation in Congress will prove to be contentious.

NCSL Contact: Susan Frederick

National Flood Insurance Program Reauthorization Gains Momentum in Wake of Hurricane Harvey

Damage from widespread flooding caused by Hurricane Harvey has been a sobering reminder for lawmakers that the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) is both in need of reauthorization, and deeply in debt. More specifically, \$24.6 billion in debt. Intensifying debate among members of Congress includes the financial solvency of the program, its efficacy for residential and commercial properties, and the costs of its associated policies.

Members of Congress from coastal states have been pushing bipartisan reauthorization efforts. Senator John Kennedy (R-La.) has been a vocal supporter of the NFIP, recently saying, "We're going to extend it. We're going to take some measures to stabilize the program. But we're not going to do it on the backs of the policyholders." Kennedy also recently drafted a six-year reauthorization bill with Senator Robert Menendez (D-N.J.). He said that the bill "tries to strike a balance between stability in the program yet still making it actually available to the people who need it."

House members have also been vocal on the subject. "The end package must ensure that we uphold the promise we've made to homeowners" Houston-area Republican, Representative Pete Olson, said about NFIP reforms. Providing impetus for the reauthorization, Representative Cedric Richmond (D-La.) said that "floodwater has a way of making it pretty clear what the priorities are."

But if lawmakers can agree on the program's importance, the opposite is true for potential reforms. The problem of the program's long-term solvency does not have a clear solution. After years of running balance sheets in the red, lawmakers are now faced with trying to increase the program's financial footing while maintaining effective and affordable policies – conflicting goals that will be hotly debated as Congress reconvenes this month. A major source of tension among lawmakers is to what extent policyholders should pay higher premiums. Even before the vast destruction caused by Hurricane Harvey this past week, 26 Republicans from states including New York, Texas, Mississippi and Florida bucked proposals by the House Financial Services Committee, alleging that the proposed changes would make flood insurance unaffordable for those who need it most.

Despite increased calls for full reauthorization, many around the Hill feel that a short-term reauthorization is most likely at this point. If lawmakers cannot agree on significant reforms by the end of September, a stopgap measure in the form of a short-term extension will be needed to keep the status quo.

NCSL Contact: Ethan Wilson

DYK? On Sept. 24, Germans will head to the polls for their quadrennial elections to cast votes for their country's legislative body, known as the Bundestag. On election day, Germans cast two votes: one for a candidate and one for a political party. The party vote exists to guarantee that the Bundestag reflects the party preferences of the overall electorate, but that also means that the number of members of the legislature may change after each election to ensure party proportionality. For more about the Bundestag and the upcoming election, visit this [article](#) from FiveThirtyEight.com.

The Autumn of Tax Reform?

In an effort to start a final push to get legislation to the White House by the end of this year, Trump will meet with the "Big Six tax" reform negotiators this evening to lay out a blueprint for the next months. While no big breakthroughs are expected to come out of today's meeting, some administration officials and congressional leaders have raised expectations that more details on tax reform framework could be released in the near future. While few details are currently known about the plan, the major issues to settle are how low to push tax rates for corporations, whether and how to pay for most of the package, and how hard it will be to comply with Senate budget rules.

Agreement on a plan to cut taxes for individuals and businesses, along with more fundamental changes to the tax code, would allow the House Ways and Means and Senate Finance committees to start putting meat on

the bone with legislative language. Meanwhile, the president will begin a tour of the Midwest this week to try to drum up public support for the necessity of tax reform. With the challenges of funding the government, raising the debt limit, reauthorizing funding a number of key programs, responding to Hurricane Harvey, and the House only scheduled to be in session for 48 more days this year, GOP efforts to completely restructure one of the most complicated tax systems in the world by the end of the year would be a herculean accomplishment.

NCSL Contacts: [Max Behlke](#), [Jake Lestock](#)

House to Vote on Self Driving Vehicle Legislation on Wednesday

The House is expected to vote on H.R. 3388, the [SELF Drive Act](#), on Wednesday after it passed the House Energy and Commerce Committee just before the August recess. NCSL, along with a host of other state groups, issued a [letter](#) outlining concerns with the legislation. While the committee did make a number of changes called for by NCSL, there remains a significant expansion of federal pre-emption on states included in the bill. Historically, the federal government has regulated motor vehicle safety while states and localities have regulated motor vehicle operations. The SELF Drive Act would expand sole federal regulatory authority to encompass vehicle operations of highly automated vehicles.

NCSL Contacts: [Ben Husch](#), [Kristen Hildreth](#)

HUD Makes Changes to New Reverse Mortgages

The Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is implementing changes to the Federal Housing Administration's (FHA) Home Equity Conversion Mortgage (HECM) Program. The mortgages, otherwise known as reverse mortgages, are financial tools for homeowners aged 62 and older designed to allow access to equity tied up in residential real property. After nearly 10 years of volatility, HUD is making changes designed to protect current FHA mortgage holders and shore up the financial stability of its HECM program. According to HUD's [HECM Fact Sheet](#), FHA insured reverse mortgages have resulted in a net cost of \$11.7 billion to the FHA Mutual Mortgage Insurance fund since 2009.

Major changes include adjusting Mortgage Insurance Premiums (MIPs) and lowering Principal Limit Factors (PLFs). MIP adjustments mean that new reverse mortgage borrowers will pay lower annual premiums, partially

offset by higher upfront premiums. According to HUD, "The new upfront premiums recognize that all borrowers taking out a HECM, regardless of how much they draw upfront, represent potential risk and should contribute to the fiscal health of new business."

Lower PLFs mean that new reverse mortgage borrowers will be subject to lower borrowing limits. Decreasing borrowed amounts reflects a move by HUD designed to shore up the program's financial stability by lowering total liabilities. HUD states that the "New PLFs will preserve the homeowners' equity in the home if they continue to occupy the house for the expected life of the loan."

Changes to HUD's HECM program apply to reverse mortgages originating in FY 2018 and will not affect current reverse mortgage borrowers.

NCSL Contact: Ethan Wilson

DYK? Nevada is the only state in which a voter can choose "None of the Above" as his or her choice in an election for statewide office.

-Courtesy of Mike Morton, Senior Deputy Legislative Counsel, Nevada Legislature

States Support Amendment for Transportation Funding Flexibility

NCSL, along with the National Governors Association (NGA) and American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials (AASHTO), issued a letter of support for an amendment from Representative Rob Woodall (R-Ga.) concerning an \$800 million-dollar rescission to federal transportation funds for states in the House's FY 2018 appropriations bill. While the amendment does not undo the rescission, it does provide significant flexibility to states to spread out the reductions in federal funding as compared to the limits included in the original language.

NCSL Contacts: Ben Husch, Kristen Hildreth

Congress Looks to Stabilize the Health Insurance Market

After spending months on a plan to repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act (ACA) that failed in July, Republican lawmakers have received another impending deadline. Last week, the Senate parliamentarian ruled that lawmakers face a Sept. 30 deadline to repeal the law with only 50 votes. This ruling is likely to

diminish already scarce prospects that the GOP will pick up their fight to repeal the ACA in the near future. It is also important to note that the House GOP's budget resolution for fiscal= year 2018 does not include any instructions on health care, which would likely kill their chances of an ACA repeal redo next year. At the same time, the Senate Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions (HELP) committee is trying to craft a bill to stabilize the ACA's insurance marketplaces in the short term.

This week, the Senate committee will hold the first of four planned hearings this month on legislation that aims to keep down premiums and boost insurer competition in the marketplaces. The hearings will feature testimony from Republican and Democratic governors, state insurance regulators, and individuals representing different parts of the health care sector. This will be the first major test to see whether the Republicans can now work with Democrats to pass a bipartisan stabilization bill by the= end of September. Meanwhile, lawmakers also have just weeks to extend funding for a program covering about 8 million kids. The Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) is set to run out of money on Sept. 30 without additional federal funding. These issues, along with other must-pass legislation including bills raising the debt limit and funding the federal government, and the recent pivot of GOP leaders to tax reform could signal a pause for any significant changes to the ACA in the near future.

NCSL Contact: Haley Nicholson

Secretary Zinke Adds State Members to Advisory Committee

Interior Secretary Ryan Zinke announced on Sept. 1 new members to the Department's Royalty Policy Committee, which included a number state legislators and state legislative staff that were submitted by NCSL, including Representative Drew Darby (R-Texas), Representative Dan Saddler (R-Alaska), Representative Hans Hunt (R-Wyo.) and Mark Edwards the of the New Mexico Legislature's Legislative Council Service. The committee will serve a critical role in advising Zinke on policy and strategies to improve management of the multi-billion dollar federal and American Indian mineral revenue program. The committee's first meeting will be held on Wednesday, Oct. 4.

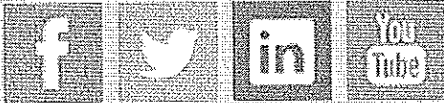
NCSL Contacts: Ben Husch, Kristen Hildreth

Have any factoids or trivia about your state? Let us know here and we may include it in a future edition of Capitol to Capitol!

[Read the August 28, 2017, Capitol-to-Capitol.](#)

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OHIO REPORT TUESDAY, JANUARY 9

Ed Board Recommends Extending Relaxed Graduation Requirements To 2020, But House Lawmakers Eye Permanent Changes

Local Government Opposition Continues Over Undeveloped Land, Property Tax Challenge Bills

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Opponents Continue To Blast Voter Roll Purges Ahead Of High Court Oral Arguments; Husted To Attend

Ohio Groups Mull Impact Of FERC's Rejection Of Grid Resiliency Pricing Proposal

Portman Talks Senate Race, Hopeful For Passage Of Sex Trafficking Bill

Ohio Expected To See Modest Revenue Uptick Compared To Other States, Report Finds

Ohio Infant Mortality Above National Rate; Group Weighs In On Medicaid Waivers...

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House Activity for Tuesday, January 9, 2018

INTRODUCED

HB 459 ■ **WORKERS' COMPENSATION** (Henne, M.) To allow groups of employers to be granted status as a self-insuring employer for purposes of the Workers' Compensation Law. Am. 1739.02 and to enact section 4123.354

HB 460 ■ **RIPARIAN BUFFERS** (Patterson, J., Sheehy, M.) To exempt qualifying riparian buffers in the Western Basin of Lake Erie from property taxation, to reimburse local taxing units for resulting revenue losses, and to require soil and water conservation districts to assist landowners with the creation and maintenance of riparian buffers. Am. 321.24, 5715.27, and 5717.02 and to enact sections 1515.12 and 5709.30

HB 461 ■ **HUMAN TRAFFICKING** (Fedor, T., Galonski, T.) To require a juvenile court to hold a delinquency complaint in abeyance if the court has reason to believe that the act charged might be prostitution related or that the child might be a victim of human trafficking and to provide that the same elements for the offense of trafficking in persons that apply to a victim under the age of sixteen also apply to a victim who is age sixteen or seventeen. Am. 2152.021, 2905.32, and 2929.01

HOUSE SPEAKER'S APPOINTMENTS

Finance: Remove Rep. Anielski; appoint Reps. Greenspan & Lang

Finance Subcommittee on Higher Education: Remove Rep. Anielski

Finance Subcommittee on Transportation: Appoint Rep. Greenspan as Chair.

COMMITTEE HEARINGS

Ways & Means

HB 343 **PROPERTY VALUES** (Merrin, D.) To require local governments that contest property values to formally pass an authorizing resolution for each

contest and to notify property owners. **(CONTINUED-AMENDED (See separate story); 6th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)**

HB 371 PROPERTY TAX (Merrin, D.) To exempt from property taxation the increased value of land subdivided for residential development until construction commences or the land is sold. **(CONTINUED (See separate story); 6th Hearing-All testimony-Possible vote)**

Subscribers Note: For full testimony see the [committee's website](#) under Jan. 9.

Finance

HB 221 WATER SEWER PROJECTS (Holmes, G.) To expressly include, as eligible projects under the State Capital Improvements Program administered by the Ohio Public Works Commission, water and sewer laterals located on private property. **(CONTINUED; 1st Hearing-Sponsor)**

Rep. Glenn Holmes (R-McDonald) said the Ohio Public Works Commission has identified many water and sewer lateral lines that need repaired or replaced, but most are on private property and owners are responsible for costly maintenance and replacements.

The measure would allow those projects to be funded at the state level so long as owners consent to granting an easement, he said.

Individual cities, such as Columbus, have already approved such a resolution and the U.S. Department of Agriculture also provides financing to lateral projects on private property when permanent easements are granted, the sponsor said.

The bill will "help ensure that we retain the ability to tackle the threat that comprised lateral lines pose to public health and safety," Rep. Holmes said.

HB 281 BROADBAND EXPANSION (Carfagna, R.) To establish the residential broadband expansion program within the Development Services Agency to award matching grants for last mile broadband expansion in municipal corporations and townships and to make an appropriation. **(CONTINUED-AMENDED; 4th Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments)**

The committee accepted five amendments offered by **Rep. Scott Ryan** (R-Newark). He said the amendments: clarify that satellite broadcasting and wireless internet service providers are included in the bill; ensure that areas receiving Connect America funds aren't eligible for the program; enable providers to use letters of credit to demonstrate financial assurance; specify that broadband facilities must be operated for an unlimited period of time; and adjust language regarding the ability of a provider to provide broadband services as described in the proposal.

Rep. Alicia Reece (D-Cincinnati) asked if constituents who currently have access to broadband but don't have a reliable connection because of poor infrastructure would be eligible for the program.

The bill's sponsor, **Rep. Rick Carfagna** (R-Westerville), said only those areas where residents don't currently receive service that is capable of 10 Mbps upload and 1 Mbps download speed are eligible for the proposed expansion program.

Tony Seegers, the Ohio Farm Bureau's director of state policy testified in support of the measure, telling the committee that agriculture educators, in particular, are excited about it.

"It is very important for our students to have access to broadband so they can compete locally," he said.

17 S. High St., Suite 630
Columbus Ohio 43215
Phone: 614-221-1992 | Fax: 614-221-7844 | Email: gongwer@gongwer-oh.com

Scott Miller, President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley, Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger,
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Volume #87, Report #6 -- Tuesday, January 9, 2018

Ed Board Recommends Extending Relaxed Graduation Requirements To 2020, But House Lawmakers Eye Permanent Changes

The State Board of Education is asking the legislature to extend eased graduation requirements to the next two classes of graduating seniors.

However, the chairman of the House Education Committee has other ideas, telling board members Tuesday that their recommendations could be moot.

Nevertheless, the board voted later in the day to recommend offering additional graduation pathways provided to the class of 2018 to students graduating in 2019 and 2020.

"If we request the extension for 19 and 20, it gives some stability," member Sarah Fowler said. "It should also provide some data so that as we look at it further this year, hopefully we can make a better recommendation for 2021."

The biennial budget (HB 49) included the exceptions for the current senior class, which is the first to fall under the new graduation requirements based largely on exam scores.

Under the original structure, students could graduate by scoring 18 out of a possible 35 points on the seven end-of-course tests, earning career credentials or scoring remediation-free on the ACT or SAT.

The budget provision, recommended by the State Board of Education, allowed students to also earn points toward graduation by meeting certain GPA and attendance requirements or completing internships, volunteer work or capstone projects.

Changes were made amid concerns from districts that about a quarter of students weren't on track to meet the new requirements. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, November 15, 2016)

Board member Pat Bruns said schools in her district are looking forward to fleshing out expanded graduation options over the next couple of years and would be disappointed if they were only available to the class of 2018.

"They are very much in favor of the options and they would like to have some extended time to continue to develop the capstones (and) the internships," she said. "They believe sincerely that these can be very robust learning experiences for their students."

However, member Kara Morgan said she's unsure about plans to continue forward with the graduation requirement expansion because there isn't yet data tracking whether seniors are actually using the alternative pathways.

It's also important to keep in mind that having non-testing options may sway students away from the goal of acing exams to graduate, she said.

"While there are clear benefits, there's also going to be costs," said Ms. Morgan, who cast the lone vote against the recommendation.

Member Stephanie Dodd contended that students will have to focus on academics regardless of how they earn points toward graduation because they must still pass certain courses to earn credits required for diplomas.

Department of Education staff said a survey has been sent to 156 schools in 48 districts with the highest number of students who were experiencing difficulty in reaching enough graduation points through testing only.

The survey asks questions to determine how the expanded options have impacted their students, said Stephanie Siddens, senior executive director of ODE's Center for Curriculum and Assessment. Results will be reported at the board's February meeting.

ODE also plans to spend the spring engaging educators, business leaders and students about the state's graduation requirements, she said. The work is part of the effort to make recommendations for permanent changes to the graduation requirements by the end of 2018.

Member Laura Kohler, who chaired the committee that worked on the recommendation, said the board will study best practices in other states, collect stakeholder feedback and assess Ohio data to create the future proposal.

"I think we need to have a discussion on what we want our graduates to know and figure out alternative ways as well as traditional ways that they can demonstrate their knowledge, skills, attributes and abilities," she said.

Moving forward, Sen. Peggy Lehner (R-Kettering), the Senate Education Committee chair, suggested the state consider the testing elements of the graduation requirements and whether they are true minimums.

For example, the ACT and SAT score requirements are set at remediation-free level for college, which may be higher than what is needed to obtain a job after high school, she said.

"Take some of those major corporations in the state of Ohio that are hiring our students and find out what they are requiring of those students to hire them, and if it's a test, make sure the test lines up with what we're requiring in our end-of-course exams, because I suspect these are all over the place," Sen. Lehner suggested. "I think to have

some consistency and understanding of what someone really needs to be handed her diploma from the state of Ohio is something we need to invest a little more time in."

Ms. Morgan said she would like the state to approach the diploma as something that students earn when they're prepared for success for many years beyond high school, which is why she's been slow to support softened graduation pathways.

"I'm a little concerned that some of the conversation is about how can we get these kids across the finish line of graduation if they're not able to accomplish what's been defined by legislation in terms of what those requirements are as opposed to how do we make sure the students have the skills and competencies they need to go out and succeed in the world," she said.

The Fordham Institute is disappointed in the board's decision to recommend an extension of the expanded graduation requirements for precisely that reason, said Chad Aldis, its vice president of Ohio policy and advocacy.

"Despite consistent feedback that too many Ohio high school graduates aren't ready for credit bearing college courses and don't possess the skills necessary to enter the workforce, the state board of education is once again recommending that the legislature walk back the requirements for high school graduation," he said. "What's most disappointing is that this change is being recommended even though a significant majority of Ohio students have met the more rigorous graduation requirements."

ODE recently reported that about 77% of current seniors are on track to meet exam-based graduation requirements.

In order for the expansion to be put in place for the coming school years, the board's recommendation would have to be included in legislation approved by the General Assembly.

Rep. Andy Brenner (R-Powell) said his caucus's policy team is already working on a graduation requirement fix, so the board's recommendation is unnecessary.

"The House is working on a permanent solution for it, so there is really no need for a resolution to begin with," the House Education Committee chair told members.

He added in an interview that the legislation, on which he couldn't provide specifics, may be introduced soon.

The lower chamber is open to taking up the issue, confirmed Brad Miller, spokesman for Speaker Cliff Rosenberger (R-Clarksville)

"Graduation requirements is an issue that leadership is interested and eager to look at moving forward," he said, noting that legislation is currently being worked on by individual members.

"If and when legislation is introduced, the speaker and caucus will take a more in-depth look at the components of the bill and make further determinations from there," Mr. Miller said.

For the upper chamber's part, Sen. Lehner said the recommendation is solid, but she's unsure how it will be received.

"I think it's a good plan. I am concerned that at the end of it you have a product that the legislature will respect and uphold," she said.

There was discussion about extending the current alternatives to the class of 2021 as well, but that proposal was quashed after Sen. Lehner said she didn't think the legislature would be supportive of putting off a permanent solution for that long.

Local Government Opposition Continues Over Undeveloped Land, Property Tax Challenge Bills

The House Ways & Means Committee on Tuesday held off on voting out a pair of property tax-related bills that have taken fire from local government groups.

But the delay wasn't because of continued opposition from local government groups or a lack of support from members, Chairman Rep. Tim Schaffer said in an interview. Instead, he said the postponement stemmed from the absence of five members due to weather-related travel issues and conflicting meetings.

Both bills, which received their sixth hearing Tuesday, are proposals from Rep. Derek Merrin (R-Maumee) that were marked for committee votes this week despite some vocal opposition. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, November 28, 2017)

"We'll figure all that out the rest of this week," Rep. Schaffer (R-Lancaster) said of the timeline for votes. "There is a lot of support for the bills. I do want to do what the committee wants done, so watch for some future vote announcements."

The first bill (HB 371) - and the one receiving the bulk of the testimony this week - would exempt from property taxation the increased value of land subdivided for residential development until construction commences or the land is sold.

The second (HB 343) would require local governments to pass an authorizing resolution in order to contest property values and to notify property owners in advance. That bill was amended to enable the boards to vote a single time on a group of resolutions rather than having a separate vote on each one.

A coalition of local government groups - including the County Auditors' Association of Ohio, the Ohio School Boards Association, the Ohio Township Association and others - reiterated opposition to the former bill in testimony Tuesday.

"The bill removes local control and changes the concept of the tax incentives being strategically developed on a case by case basis," CCAO's John Leutz said.

Kent Scarrett, director of the Ohio Municipal League, agreed in written testimony, but added that the league would be neutral on the bill if a provision was added making the legislation optional.

Asked by Rep. Steve Hambley (R-Brunswick) whether they too would become neutral if such a provision was adopted, the coalition of government groups said it had yet to poll their members on that idea.

Rep. Schaffer, for his part, said he'd like to talk internally about the prospect of opt-in language. "I had heard that briefly before and I heard a little more about it today so we'll talk about it," Rep. Schaffer said.

Jim Moline, owner of Toledo-based James E. Moline Builders Inc., was the only proponent. In written testimony, he called it "nonsensical" for schools and local governments to oppose the bill due to possible lost revenue. By spurring development, he argued, the property will spend less time vacant and therefore increase tax revenue through both new jobs and economic activity.

"The current tax structure is hurting Ohio and the Northwest region," Mr. Moline said. "When a home builder is starting a development, it is unfair and anti-growth to increase their taxes due to simply subdividing and platting their land. It discourages homebuilders from starting new developments and increases their financial risk."

Jason Warner, government affairs manager for the Greater Ohio Policy Institute, testified as an interested party. He said the bill could cause communities to lose out on revenue because their infrastructure building efforts - like putting in new roads - won't result in property value increases during the freeze.

Property Tax Challenges: Rep. Merrin described his amendment to HB343 as a "major concession on my part" and a bid to appease opponents who had voiced concerns the legislation's requirements placed an unreasonable burden on boards by requiring one vote for each resolution.

The amendment also changes the bill to enable notification to be mailed to the tax mailing address on file but also allows boards to send it to the physical address of the property if there is a discrepancy.

Jeff Dornbusch, treasurer of the Port Clinton City School District, testified against both bills. Regarding HB343, he said it would have an especially adverse impact on his district because it has generally high property values but low income levels among residents.

"Due to the makeup of our school district, we have many second homes and vacation homes that are often sold at amounts much larger than what is on the current county auditor's records," Mr. Dornbusch said.

The district does challenge the values in those instances, he said. "As we take advantage of what is current law and those values increase the collective whole of our district's taxes - and year-round taxpayers especially - their taxes go down somewhat. We never look to file to inflate any of those values or try to get extra income that is not due us."

He added that the board's attorney only acts after the treasurer and board of education review potential complaints. That's in contrast to claims from sponsors who said there are districts in which the attorney enjoys autonomy in filing such complaints.

Rep. Merrin, who rolled his eyes during Mr. Dornbusch's remarks, accused the witness of having not read the bill and misunderstanding its contents.

Rep. Wes Retherford (R-Hamilton) said it sounds like the district is already following most of the bill's provisions except for the vote, in which case he believes it won't cause much of an added burden.

O'Neill Names Running Mate; Cordray, Taylor To Fill Out Tickets Wednesday; Vance Courted For U.S. Senate Bid...

Ohio Supreme Court Justice Bill O'Neill on Tuesday became the latest gubernatorial candidate to officially name a running mate.

Justice O'Neill tapped Chantelle E. Lewis, a principal in the Lorain City School District, to run on his ticket as a lieutenant governor candidate.

"She is bright, articulate and a success story right out of the American Dream," Justice O'Neill said in a Facebook video announcing the pick.

Ms. Lewis, 42, is a former teacher in the Cleveland City School District. She has two master's degrees from Cleveland State University and a superintendent's license. She also served as a member of the East Cleveland City Council and on the East Cleveland City Schools Board of Education.

"I look forward to bringing common sense focus to education in the state of Ohio," she said.

Justice O'Neill used the announcement to pivot from what has been the hallmark of his campaign - the legalization of marijuana - to education, calling Ohio's system "a tragedy of epic proportions."

"Suburban school districts pay exorbitant taxes to educate their kids," he said. "Rural school districts do not have the resources to provide a quality education, and inner-city school districts have a tragic record of failing their students."

The Democrat also called the state's school funding system illegal and used the opportunity to take a shot at some of his primary foes, noting that four served in the General Assembly in the past 20 years.

"They have done nothing to change the illegal funding scheme for schools in Ohio," he said.

In a separate release, Justice O'Neill touted the diversity of his ticket.

"I am a white male nurse running with an African-American female educator. The people of Ohio deserve diversity in their leaders," he said. "It doesn't get any better than this."

O'Neill is set to resign his seat on the bench Jan. 26. On Jan. 27, he will officially become a candidate for governor, he said.

However, critics of both parties have called on him to step down from the bench as he actively campaigns for a partisan post. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, December 8, 2017)

One of the most vocal critics has been Auditor Dave Yost, who took to Twitter Tuesday to again chide Justice O'Neill.

"He's got a running mate, but he's still not a candidate who has to resign the bench? I can't even...," he wrote. "The law means nothing if it is not enforced."

Other Running Mates: Lt. Gov. Mary Taylor is expected to announce former Procter & Gamble executive Nathan Estruth as her running mate Wednesday. The announcement is set for 1 p.m. at City Gospel Mission in Cincinnati.

Mr. Estruth is currently the president and CEO of Hamilton-based iMFLUX, a materials company whose work includes plastic mold design and production, polymer processing and machine control software and hardware.

He served on the board of directors of the Alliance Defending Freedom for seven years until 2014. The ADF describes itself as an organization that advocates in court for religious freedom, emphasizing conservative Christian ideals. The group has been designated by the Southern Poverty Law Center as an anti-LGBT hate group.

Democrats criticized the potential pick, saying an "extremist agenda" would hurt Ohio's ability to attract businesses.

"The Ohio Republican primary for governor is one giant race to the hard right, and today's announcement by Mary Taylor is just one more example of how extreme the

Ohio GOP has become," Ohio Democratic Party Chairman David Pepper said in a statement. "If we want to build a stronger economy, we can't afford to have leaders who have aligned themselves with groups that attack our fellow Ohioans, as the 'Alliance Defending Freedom' has done."

Rich Cordray, meanwhile, is expected to join forces with former U.S. Rep. Betty Sutton, who will run as the No. 2 on the ticket.

The announced is slated to be held near Ms. Sutton's home turf of Copley at a 10:30 a.m. event at the Akron Family Restaurant.

The duo brings national experience to the ticket, as both are alums of the administration of former President Barack Obama. Mr. Cordray led the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau while Ms. Sutton, a former federal lawmaker, headed the Saint Lawrence Seaway Development Corporation.

They also both share Ohio political roots, as Mr. Cordray is a former statewide official and Ms. Sutton, who had previously announced her own gubernatorial bid, served in the Ohio House.

Senate Race: "Hillbilly Elegy" author J.D. Vance is reportedly being courted to throw his hat in the ring for the Republican nomination for the U.S. Senate.

Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) has had talks with Mr. Vance about filling the void left by Treasurer Josh Mandel's unexpected exit from the race, POLITICO reported.

"McConnell has told associates that he would prioritize the race if Vance jumps in," the outlet reported.

However, the report notes that other Republicans are courting additional candidates, including U.S. Sen. Cory Gardner (R-Co.), head of the U.S. Senate Republican's campaign arm, who has spoken with U.S. Rep. Jim Renacci (R-Alliance) about exiting the gubernatorial race and seeking the GOP nomination to take on U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-Cleveland).

Domestic Steel: In the wake of a report that found 10% of school drinking water fixtures had elevated levels of lead last year, two lawmakers are urging the passage of their legislation that would require the use of domestic steel in schools.

Rep. Dan Ramos (D-Lorain) and Rep. John Boccieri (D-Alliance) blamed the lead problem on China's subsidization of its steel industry, which they said has provided the country with a competitive advantage in steel markets and resulted in a cheap product.

The remedy, they said, is legislation (HB 57) that would require all schools receiving taxpayer dollars to use American steel in construction and renovation projects.

"This problem is even more widespread that we could have imagined. Our children are being put in harm's way by importing cheaply made foreign goods, containing dangerous chemicals. We have to do something right away to protect our kids," Rep. Ramos said.

Added Rep. Bocchieri: "Any number of contaminated fixtures in our schools presenting health risks to young students means we still have a problem. We need to do more to eliminate lead contamination and protect the safety of our kids. Requiring the use of safe, American steel in our school infrastructure is one way to start getting there."

Opponents Continue To Blast Voter Roll Purges Ahead Of High Court Oral Arguments; Husted To Attend

A day ahead of oral arguments in a crucial election-related U.S. Supreme Court case, an Ohio Army veteran lamented being thrown off the voting rolls.

Oak Harbor Mayor Joseph Helle, a Democrat running for the seat currently held by Rep. Steve Arndt (R-Port Clinton), said he was unknowingly barred from voting while deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan for his failure to vote during that time.

His name was scrubbed from the rolls under the state's "supplemental process," which allows the secretary of state's office to cancel the registration of those who do not vote in three successive federal elections or in the intervening local elections.

"The right to vote is as important as the right not to vote," he said Tuesday at a news conference organized by ProgressOhio and Why Courts Matter Ohio.

The nation's highest court will weigh whether the state's method of cleaning its voter rolls violates the Voting Rights Act of 1993. The Sixth Circuit Court of Appeals found that the 1993 law does not allow for voting inactivity to be used as one of the triggers to begin the process to remove a voter from the rolls. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, September 23, 2016)

However, Secretary of State Jon Husted contends that the program serves to reduce lines and confusion on Election Day and is a guard against voter fraud. Through the program, more than 600,000 deceased voters have been purged from the rolls, along with 1.7 million duplicate registrations, his office said.

Secretary Husted will be in attendance at the U.S. Supreme Court Wednesday, his office announced. In doing so, it said the case "centers on the rights of individual states to maintain accurate and up-to-date voter rolls in order to preserve integrity in elections."

Robert Alt, president and CEO of the Buckeye Institute, will also attend oral arguments. He co-authored an amicus brief arguing that the supplemental process passes constitutional muster.

The lawsuit, filed by the ACLU of Ohio and Demos on behalf of Ohio A. Philip Randolph Institute and the Northeast Ohio Coalition for the Homeless, alleges that the voter roll maintenance program disenfranchises voters, particularly the poor and those of color.

Robert Davis, political and legislative director at the APRI, said during the news conference that in the state's three largest counties voters have been struck from the rolls in Democratic-leaning neighborhoods at roughly twice the rate as those in Republican-leaning neighborhoods.

"That's because residents of relatively affluent Republican-leaning neighborhoods are more likely to vote in both congressional elections and presidential contests, historical turnouts show," he said. "Because Democrats are less likely to vote in midterm elections, Democrats are more at risk of falling off the rolls."

Daniel Tokaji, co-counsel in the case, said state have several avenues to keep their voting rolls clean without removing citizens for failing to cast ballots, including the U.S. Post Office's national change of address system, undeliverable mail or on good evidence that someone has moved or died.

"Ohio is an outlier," he said. "Only a handful of other states have a comparable practice. And those practices are totally unnecessary, given that there are much better ways to determine who has moved or died than whether or not they've voted."

Former U.S. Attorney Steve Dettelbach, who is vying to replace Attorney General Mike DeWine, said the state's process for purging its voter rolls "unfairly impacts, vets, seniors, and the disabled, and leads to a broken, partisan political system that allows travesties like ECOT."

"A balanced SCOTUS will uphold the Sixth Circuit Court's decision," he said. "If this court does not, Ohioans have a chance to send a message to the politicians this November -- we won't tolerate politicians who try to rig the system at the expense of our basic rights."

Ohio Groups Mull Impact Of FERC's Rejection Of Grid Resiliency Pricing Proposal

Federal regulators have rejected the Trump Administration's proposal to support aging power plants - handing Ohio opponents a victory and putting focus back on ongoing talks over pending state-level legislation to benefit nuclear plants.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission unanimously refused Energy Secretary Rick Perry's plan to grant new financial support to nuclear and coal plants struggling to compete with newer natural gas facilities.

Instead, the commission opted to open an entirely new case docket to examine the overall reliability of the grid and instructed regional market operators to submit comments and responses to questions on the subject within 60 days.

It's a short-term win for opponents in Ohio and beyond who had argued the move would mark a bail out of noncompetitive plants by unfairly tipping the scales. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, December 11, 2017)

"FERC found the grid to be reliable and acted to protect markets," Ohio Manufacturers' Association President Eric Burkland said of the ruling. "The FERC's action saves manufacturers and other customers billions of dollars in unnecessary costs for failing generation."

Proponents of Secretary Perry's plan had argued the move would save jobs. Jennifer Young, FirstEnergy spokeswoman, said the company is reviewing the order and its next steps. The company along with elected officials and labor groups in its footprint had lobbied for the rule's approval.

"Baseload coal and nuclear plants have long played an invaluable role in a well-functioning electric grid, yet the markets do not adequately compensate these assets," Ms. Young said. "Without timely action, more of these facilities will close prematurely, jeopardizing the ability to provide clean, reliable and affordable power to customers while harming economies across the region."

The central discussion point in the case - whether aging plants can compete on a level playing field with their newer counterparts - is the same disagreement driving debate over a trio of pending bills in the General Assembly seeking to grant cost recovery to FirstEnergy nuclear plants.

Opponents of those bills (SB 128, HB 178 & HB 381) had pointed to the pending FERC action as a reason to delay votes. Why advance the state proposals to create a zero-emission credits program, they argued, when federal regulators may be poised to grant relief? But with the FERC matter settled for the time being, proponents of the ZEN bills might seize FERC's rejection as further evidence of the need for state-level action.

Calling the FERC decision "good news," Ohio Consumers' Counsel Bruce Weston said the next test lies with lawmakers.

"Hopefully Ohio legislators will similarly protect consumers from paying power plant subsidies by rejecting utility-sponsored subsidy legislation in Ohio and by enacting House Bill 247 to prevent further subsidies at the PUCO," Mr. Weston said. "Proposals for subsidizing electric utility power plants - whether at the federal or state levels - are bad for the competitive electricity markets that are benefiting Ohio consumers with lower electric bills."

HB247, of which the OCC is a strong supporter, would ban utilities from utilizing Electric Security Plans and instead require the adoption of market rate offers. But utilities have balked at that idea, arguing the current system is more beneficial to consumers. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, December 12, 2017)

Portman Talks Senate Race, Hopeful For Passage Of Sex Trafficking Bill

U.S. Sen. Rob Portman on Tuesday praised the December passage of a federal tax overhaul and expressed hope that his proposal to combat online sex trafficking would soon meet similar success.

The Terrace Park Republican also told Ohio reporters that he's heard from several fellow Republicans who are interested in entering the race for the other Senate seat in the wake of State Treasurer Josh Mandel's departure, but said the race will need time to take shape. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, January 8, 2017)

The senator said he assumed there would be a number of Republican candidates who might jump in, but that he doesn't have a favorite.

"We don't know who's going to get in," Sen. Portman said on a conference call. "We'll see how it sorts out."

Sen. Portman initially endorsed Mr. Mandel in the Republican primary to challenge Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-Cleveland), and said he did so because the state treasurer was the consensus Republican and the only one in the race at the time. Other candidates, including Cleveland businessman Mike Gibbons, later joined.

Mr. Mandel dropped out of the race Friday, citing a family health concern.

"My thoughts are with Josh and Ilana and their family," Sen. Portman said.

Sen. Portman also discussed announcements from businesses in the wake of passage of a federal tax bill last month. He pointed to announcements of bonuses and changes to benefits as a sign the bill's tax changes will help Ohioans.

"This is, I think, the tip of the iceberg," he said. "What's going to happen is you're going to see America be a better place to do business."

The senator was also hopeful his bill addressing sex trafficking, the so-called Stop Enabling Sex Traffickers Act, would be up for a full Senate vote soon. The measure now has 64 cosponsors, he said.

"I think this is really important because we can actually stop a lot of this trafficking online just through this legislation," he said.

January is National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month, making it an appropriate time to pass the bill, Sen. Portman said. While some in the chamber are siding with tech companies against the measure, the number of cosponsors shows it can pass by a significant margin.

"It's bipartisan, obviously, but it's also beyond politics and it will really help survivors get the justice they deserved and hold websites like Backpage.com responsible," he said.

Sen. Portman also said he's introduced legislation with three other senators, including Sen. Brown, to create an online hub for federal agencies to find American-made goods. The portal would help agencies better comply with requirements to buy American products, and also help connect businesses with consumers.

"This will make it easy for them to buy American products," he said.

Ohio Expected To See Modest Revenue Uptick Compared To Other States, Report Finds

States are expected to see moderate tax revenue growth in Fiscal Year 2018, with Ohio coming in somewhat below the national average, according to a report by the National Conference of State Legislatures.

The report surveyed legislative fiscal offices on their revenues and spending in certain areas, such as education, corrections and Medicaid.

The study found Ohio among a group of states that reported a small margin for error between revenue estimates and appropriations. Other states reported optimism about their fiscal situations, particularly in energy-rich states such as New Mexico, West Virginia and Wyoming, which noted strong severance tax revenues.

"Overall, states continue to chart a course of modest growth, while increasing spending pressures and slow revenue growth are causing some concern and keeping state budgets tight," the report said.

Ohio's general fund revenues are expected to grow by 0.9% from Fiscal Year 2017 to FY 2018, the report noted, with expenditures expected to drop by 1%. Both of those fall well below the national averages of 3.9% for revenues and 3.3% for expenditures.

Most states maintain rainy day funds or budget stabilization funds, and the report found the balances of those funds as a percentage of expenditures was dropping slowly, to a projected 7.2% nationwide for FY 2018. The total is still well above the 4.8% seen in 2009, but below a peak of about 12% in 2013.

Elementary and secondary education spending, which is expected to account for about 34% of state general fund spending in FY 2018, is expected to grow in 40 states, with Kansas, Oregon and Washington expecting the most significant growth. Ohio's growth is expected to be modest compared to the national average.

In higher education spending, Ohio again projects for relatively mild gains compared to other states, although it is among the 32 states seeing an increase. Some states are expecting decreases, such as Indiana, which anticipates a slight decline in general fund spending along with a significant increase in earmarked spending due to workforce-ready grants and support for adult students.

Ohio is one of six states expecting an increase of more than 5% in corrections spending for FY 2018, joining Louisiana, Maine, New Hampshire, South Carolina and Washington. Louisiana's growth is largely due to \$3 million in retroactive payments to cover costs from the previous fiscal year.

As for Medicaid spending, Ohio is one of eight states expecting total expenditures to decline. Ohio expects a significant drop - 15% -- in general fund Medicaid spending, with an 8.5% drop in total funds spending in the category. That discrepancy is largely due to the shift of revenue and federal matching funds from a change in the Medicaid managed care sales tax. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, January 30, 2017)

Alaska is another state expected to see a decline in Medicaid spending. The state's budget has been hit hard by stagnant oil prices, according to the report.

Nationwide, all-funds Medicaid spending is expected to grow by 7.2%.

Ohio Infant Mortality Above National Rate; Group Weighs In On Medicaid Waivers...

A federal report found Ohio ranked near the bottom nationwide in key infant mortality statistics, and was second-to-last in black infant mortality.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention used data from 2013 to 2015 to compare infant mortality rates among the states.

In overall infant mortality, Ohio's rate of 7.13 per 1,000 live births ranked it significantly above the U.S. rate of 5.89, although it was below Mississippi's rate of 9.08.

Ohio also came in above the national rate for non-Hispanic white women, at 5.76 per 1,000 compared to 4.95 for the nation overall. Arkansas had the highest rate in that category at 7.04.

The list of states with significantly higher rates of infant mortality for black infants includes many from the Midwest, with Ohio's 13.46 topped only by Wisconsin's 14.28. The national rate was 11.10.

Among Hispanic women, Ohio also had a rate close to the highest, at 6.92 per 1,000. Michigan was the highest, at 7.28, while the national rate was 4.99.

Medicaid Waivers: Policy Matters Ohio urged against Medicaid waivers it said could harm patients in the wake of an announcement from the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services that it would allow states more flexibility.

PMO's Katie Fallon wrote that Ohio, which is pursuing a waiver to impose work requirements on some Medicaid recipients, should avoid restrictions that limit access to

care. Instead, she wrote, the state should promote voluntary job referral, education and training for those seeking to work.

"Indeed, losing Medicaid harms people's ability to find and maintain work," she wrote. "Three-quarters of beneficiaries in Ohio who received care under Medicaid expansion and were looking for work reported that Medicaid made it easier to do so. For those who were currently working, more than half said that Medicaid made it easier to keep their jobs."

Adding premiums or co-pays could drive down enrollment, while encouraging care coordination could reduce costs by improving outcomes and minimizing unnecessary expenses.

"Demonstration waivers are intended to try out new approaches to health care," the post said. "Whether the goals are to increase enrollment for vulnerable families, increase efficiency or decrease costs, simply reducing the number of people covered by Medicaid is not the solution. It is simply another way of reviving tired, old ideas that did not work before the Affordable Care Act and Medicaid expansion and won't work again now."

Economic Impact: The Ohio State Medical Association touted a report that found physicians support 373,000 jobs in the state and generate nearly \$64 billion in economic activity.

The report by the American Medical Association found the state's 28,795 physicians generated \$30.5 billion in direct economic activity and \$33 billion in indirect economic activity.

"The study shows that, beyond their role of safeguarding a healthy community, physicians are a major driver of state and national economies, spurring economic growth and creating jobs across all industries," OSMA President Dr. Robyn Chatman said in a statement. "Physicians' activities, inside and outside of the exam room, have a ripple effect in their communities."

Supplemental Agency Calendar

Tuesday, January 16

Consumers' Counsel Governing Board, 65 East State Street, 7th Floor, Columbus, 10 a.m.

Supplemental Event Planner

Thursday, January 11

Sen. Charleta B. Tavares (D-Columbus) news conference on legislation aligning state prescription drugs and medical equipment pricing with U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs, Harding Senate Press Rm., Statehouse, Columbus, 10 a.m.

Ohio Lobbying Association Signature Series Luncheon featuring Jane Timken, Chairman, Ohio Republican Party, Sheraton Columbus, 75 E. State St., Columbus, 11:30 a.m.

Thursday, January 18

Ohio Lobbying Association Signature Series Luncheon featuring David Pepper, Chairman, Ohio Democratic Party, Sheraton Columbus, 75 E. State St., Columbus, 11:30 a.m.

Friday, January 19

Rep. Bill Seitz (R-Cincinnati) fundraising luncheon, University Club 401 E. Fourth St, Cincinnati, 11:30 a.m., (Sponsor: \$2,500, Host: \$1,000; Guest: \$500 to Seitz for Ohio)

Tuesday, January 23

Rep. Laura Lanese (R-Grove City) fundraising luncheon, Condado, 132 S. High St., Columbus, 11:30 a.m., (Sponsor: \$1,000; Host: \$500; Chair: \$350 to Lanese for Ohio)

Wednesday, January 24

Rep. Ryan Smith (R-Bidwell) fundraiser, Athletic Club, 136 E. Broad St., Columbus, 11:30 a.m., (Chair: \$5,000, Sponsor: \$2,500, Host: \$1,000, Guest: \$500 to Friends of Ryan Smith. RSVP required to Taylor at 740.395.7656 or Taylor@smithforohio.com)

Thursday, January 25

Ohio Women In Government networking reception, El Arepazo, 515 S. High St., Columbus, 5 p.m., (Registration: <http://conta.cc/2CMIfoC>)

Tuesday, February 27

Ohio Lobbying Association Annual Meeting & Legislative Reception, Sheraton Columbus at Capital Square, 75 E. State St., Columbus, 4 p.m.

17 S. High St., Suite 630

Columbus Ohio 43215

Phone: 614-221-1992 | Fax: 614-221-7844 | Email: gongwer@gongwer-oh.com

Scott Miller, President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley, Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger, Jon Reed, Staff Writers

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Daily Activity Planner for Wednesday, January 10

Legislative Committees

House Government Accountability & Oversight (Committee Record) (Chr. Blessing, L., 466-9091), Rm. 114, 9:30 a.m.

- HB 451** **PUBLIC RECORDS (Retherford, W.)** To exclude from the definition of public record under the Public Records Law any depiction by photograph, film, videotape, or digital, visual, or printed material of victims of crime under specified circumstances dealing with the victims' bodily privacy. (1st Hearing-Sponsor-Pending referral)
- HB 382** **UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION (Schuring, K.)** To modify terms describing payments made under the Unemployment Compensation Law, to increase the amount of wages subject to unemployment compensation premiums, to require qualifying employees to make payments to the Unemployment Compensation Insurance Fund, to allow the Director of Job and Family Services to adjust maximum weekly benefit amounts, to reduce the maximum number of benefit weeks, and to make other changes to the Unemployment Compensation Law. (7th Hearing-All testimony)
- HJR 4** **UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION (Schuring, K.)** Proposing to enact Section 2t of Article VIII of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to allow the General Assembly to provide by law for the issuance of bonds to pay unemployment compensation benefits when the fund created for that purpose is or will be depleted or to repay outstanding advances made by the federal government to the unemployment compensation program. (7th Hearing-All testimony)
- HB 342** **TAX LEVIES (Merrin, D.)** To permit local tax-related proposals to appear only on general and primary election ballots and not on an August special election ballot and to modify the information conveyed in election notices and ballot language for property tax levies. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible substitute)
- HB 430** **ENERGY TAX EXEMPTION (Schaffer, T.)** To expand the scope of a sales and use tax exemption for certain kinds of property used in the production of oil and gas. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HB 425** **BODY CAMERAS (Antani, N., Craig, H.)** To provide that specified portions of peace officers' body-worn camera recordings and the infrastructure record of a public school are not public records for purposes of the Public Records Law. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)
- HJR 5** **BALLOT ISSUES (Antani, N.)** Proposing to amend Sections 1a, 1b, 1e, and 1g of Article II of the Constitution of the State of Ohio to modify the

requirements for the initiative and referendum processes. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

SB 10 **PRIMARY ELECTIONS** (LaRose, F.) To expand the circumstances under which a board of elections or the secretary of state is not required to hold a primary election. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

Senate Government Oversight & Reform (Committee Record) (**Chr. Coley, B., 466-8072**), Finance Hearing Rm., 9:45 a.m.

- **Presentation on Congressional redistricting from Sen. Huffman**

SB 28 **ABORTION** (Uecker, J.) Regarding final disposition of fetal remains from surgical abortions. (3rd Hearing-All testimony-Possible amendments & vote)

SB 220 **CYBERSECURITY** (Hackett, B., Bacon, K.) To provide a legal safe harbor to covered entities that implement a specified cybersecurity program. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

SB 201 **PRISON TERMS** (Bacon, K., O'Brien, S.) To provide for indefinite prison terms for first or second degree felonies and specified third degree felonies, with presumptive release of offenders sentenced to such a term at the end of the minimum term; to generally allow the Department of Rehabilitation and Correction to reduce the minimum term for exceptional conduct or adjustment to incarceration; to allow the Department to rebut the release presumption and keep the offender in prison up to the maximum term if it makes specified findings; and to name the act's provisions the Reagan Tokes Law. (3rd Hearing-Opponent)

HB 122 **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT** (Hambley, S., Rogers, J.) To establish a Regional Economic Development Alliance Study Committee to study the benefits and challenges involved in creating regional economic development alliances. (2nd Hearing-Proponent)

~~**Canceled: Senate Rules & Reference**~~ (Committee Record) (~~**Chr. Obhof, L., 466-7505**~~), Majority Conf. Rm., 11 a.m.

- **If needed**

Senate Energy & Natural Resources (Committee Record) (**Chr. Balderson, T., 466-8076**), Finance Hearing Rm., 1 p.m.

SB 236 **MINE COMMISSION** (Huffman, M.) To create the Affected Mine Commission, to require the Affected Mine Commission to hear appeals related to oil and gas operations and affected coal mines in lieu of the Reclamation Commission, and to define "affected mine" for purposes of the law. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

SB 238 **WIND FARM SETBACKS** (Dolan, M.) Regarding wind turbine setbacks for wind farms of at least five megawatts. (1st Hearing-Sponsor)

HB 114 **RENEWABLE ENERGY** (Blessing, L.) To revise the provisions governing renewable energy, energy efficiency, and peak demand reduction and to alter funding allocations under the Home Energy Assistance Program. (4th Hearing-All testimony)

Canceled: Senate Session (Committee Record) (**Chr. Obhof, L., 466-4900**), Senate Chamber, 1:30 p.m.

- **If needed**

Senate Public Utilities (Committee Record) (**Chr. Beagle, B., 466-6247**), Finance Hearing Rm., 2:30 p.m.

SB 155 **SECURITY RESOURCES** (**Terhar, L., Peterson, B.**) To allow electric distribution utilities to recover costs for a national security generation resource. (7th Hearing-All testimony)

Agency Calendar

State Board of Education, 25 S. Front St., Columbus, 8:30 a.m.

Southern Ohio Agricultural & Community Development Foundation, OSU South Centers, 1864 Shyville Rd., Piketon, 9:30 a.m. (Economic Development Regional Review Committee)

Petroleum Underground Storage Tank Release Compensation Board, 4151 Executive Parkway, Suite 350, Westerville, 10 a.m. (The Rules Committee will meet at 12 pm in the same location)

Venture Capital Authority, 77 South High Street, 29th Floor, Columbus, 1 p.m.

BWC Health Care Provider Quality Assurance Advisory Committee, Rm. 2, Level 3, 30 W. Spring St., Columbus, 1:30 p.m. (Subcommittee meeting)

Veterinary Medical Licensing Board, 77 S. High St., Rm. 1914, Columbus, 1:30 p.m.

Event Planner

No events scheduled.

17 S. High St., Suite 630
Columbus Ohio 43215
Phone: 614-221-1992 | Fax: 614-221-7844 | Email: gongwer@gongwer-oh.com

Scott Miller, President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Melissa Dilley, Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger, Jon Reed, Staff Writers

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NEWS

Senate Republicans' budget proposal boosts funding to fight opioid crisis, saves money through administrative streamlining (Akron Beacon Journal, 6/13/2017)

Ohio agency granted adjustments to no-bid contract process (Associated Press, 6/13/2017)

Ohio board to online charter school: Pay back disputed \$60M (Associated Press, 6/13/2017)

Ohio grants Intralot unbid \$71M lottery contract, extensions (Associated Press, 6/13/2017)

Senate budget closes \$1B gap, adds \$6M for opioid crisis (Associated Press, 6/13/2017)

This Ohio paper endorsed Trump. And now? (Cincinnati Enquirer, 6/13/2017)

Would your school lose or gain money under Senate GOP plan? (Cincinnati Enquirer, 6/13/2017)

Americans for Prosperity targets Sen. Sherrod Brown in new digital ad campaign (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 6/13/2017)

No more art, music and gym tests just to grade teachers? How Ohio could change testing under new proposal (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 6/13/2017)

Ohio Senate budget plan seeks deeper cuts: Ohio Politics Roundup (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 6/13/2017)

President Donald Trump nominates Cleveland lawyer Justin Herdman to be new U.S. attorney (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 6/13/2017)

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State agencies, Medicaid take brunt of \$1 billion budget cut proposed by Senate GOP (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 6/13/2017)

State superintendent proposes cuts in Ohio's state tests (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 6/13/2017)

ECOT ordered to repay \$60 million for inflating attendance (Columbus Dispatch, 6/13/2017)

Justices uphold Ohio commercial tax (Columbus Dispatch, 6/13/2017)

Lawmakers OK new state contracting rules requiring competition (Columbus Dispatch, 6/13/2017)

Husted announces statewide campaign operations (Dayton Daily News, 6/13/2017)

Ohio Senate leaders say state facing \$1B budget gap (Dayton Daily News, 6/13/2017)

Ohio wins Supreme Court case on business tax (Dayton Daily News, 6/13/2017)

Ohio Senate cuts lead plan from budget (Toledo Blade, 6/13/2017)

EDITORIALS

Will Ohio close its 'rent gap'? (Akron Beacon Journal, 6/13/2017)

Talk it out: Should low-level drug dealers do time in prison? (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 6/13/2017)

Editorial: Protect kids from 'silent' poison (Columbus Dispatch, 6/13/2017)

Release pipeline protest reports (Toledo Blade, 6/13/2017)

Destruction of public records is wrong answer to a real problem (Youngstown Vindicator, 6/13/2017)

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From: Max Behlke

Sent: Monday, July 31, 2017 5:54 PM

To: Zielinski, Justin

Subject: NCSL Capitol to Capitol: McConnell on Health Care - It's Time to Move On

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CapitoltoCapitol

NATIONAL CONFERENCE of STATE LEGISLATURES



July 31, 2017

McConnell on Health Care: "It's Time to Move On"

At 1:39 a.m. on Friday morning, Senator Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) took to the floor and pronounced the Senate Republican health care bill dead. It was the most dramatic night in the U.S. Senate's recent history, which climaxed with a dramatic thumbs down vote by Arizona Republican John McCain. After the failed vote, McConnell said: "Now I think it's appropriate to ask what are their [Democrats] ideas. It would be interesting to see what they suggest as the way forward."

The legislation, dubbed a "skinny repeal" of the Affordable Care Act (ACA), lacked specifics but was framed by Republican leaders on both sides of the Capitol as the way to begin a negotiation between the House and Senate on a large health care package. Before the vote, Republican leaders knew that they had no margin of error as Senators Susan Collins (R-Maine) and Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska.) had already announced their intention to vote against the legislation and Republicans could not afford any other defections, given their slim 52-48 majority. McCain, who made a dramatic return to the Senate earlier in the week after it was announced he had been diagnosed with brain cancer, had not yet signaled how he intended to cast his crucial vote. But his Republican colleagues spent much of the time before the vote trying to persuade him to vote with them. Even Vice President Mike Pence, who was in the chamber in case there was a need to cast a tie-breaking vote, walked over to McCain at 12:44 a.m. to persuade him to vote "yes." For the next 21 minutes, the vice president pressed McCain, Collins and Murkowski to change their votes, but ultimately was unsuccessful.

What the failed health care vote means for Washington going forward remains unclear. On CNN's "State of the Union" on Sunday morning, White House budget director Mick Mulvaney told Jake Tapper that "in the White House's view they can't move on in the Senate" to other issues until they pass a health care bill. He said that the Senate "should stay and work and figure out a way to solve this problem." But given that Congress has a packed calendar and fast approaching deadlines, including passing a budget by Sept. 30 to keep the government operating, as well as raising the debt ceiling before the government defaults in October, it is unlikely McConnell will spend any more precious floor time on health care, at least in the short term.

While disappointed, conservatives inside the beltway have signaled that it is time to move on to tax reform. Tim Phillips, president of the conservative Americans for Prosperity, on the failure to repeal and replace the ACA said, "it's time to pivot to tax reform. There's no time to pout."

D.Y.K.? On July 28, Democratic U.S. Rep. John Delaney of Maryland became the first prominent elected official to announce his candidacy for president in 2020. According to Five Thirty Eight, in the past 45 years, there's no record of any serious candidates announcing that they're running for president this early. In the 2016 cycle, Ted Cruz was the first to declare among Democrats and Republicans. He did so on March 23, 2015 — that was 315 days before the Iowa caucuses.

Can Republicans Pivot to Tax Reform?

After their health care bill died on the Senate floor last week, Republican congressional leaders have begun shifting their attention to another equally herculean task: reforming the U.S. tax code. The White House, Treasury and congressional leaders issued a six-paragraph statement last Thursday showing their commitment to pursuing tax reform before the end of 2017. In a symbolic statement, the so-called "Big Six" of top lawmakers and administration officials vowed to reduce tax rates, simplify the tax code, and improve U.S. economic growth by updating tax laws. While the announcement merely presented a broad mission without delving into any policy specifics, one of the most controversial topics in the tax reform debate was officially abandoned. The border adjustment tax, or the tax on imports, was formally stripped from tax reform discussions. This comes following fierce backlash from retailers, and other import-dependent industries and conservative activists who argued that it was a tax on consumers and would hinder economic activity.

The "Big Six", made up of Speaker Paul Ryan (R-Wis.), House Ways and Means Chairman Kevin Brady (R-Texas), McConnell, Senate Finance Chairman Orrin Hatch (R-Utah), Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin, and Gary Cohn, the director of the National Economic Council, will have an extremely busy August as they begin crafting tax reform measures after losing one of the largest ways to fund tax cuts, i.e. repeal of the ACA tax provisions. Brady, who supported border adjustability said last week, "for us to unify it was important to set it aside, for now. We've been actively exploring with the Senate and White House a viable alternative," he added. "[We] still have work to do but I like the path we're going."

That path will prove difficult. Republicans plan to use the congressional tool known as budget reconciliation to push tax reform through the Senate without Democratic votes. But any provisions in a reconciliation package that would add to the deficit outside the 10-year budget window must be temporary. Most likely to end up as permanent would be cuts to business and individual rates while the elimination of various individual tax breaks, including the federal deduction for payment of state and local taxes are at stake. NCSL has joined with the other Big 7 state and local groups actively and

adamantly opposing this approach. Specifics for tax reform will be planned during the August recess and Republican leadership will begin whipping members into line on passing a budget to serve as a vehicle for tax reform. It remains to be seen if Ryan, McConnell and President Donald Trump will be able to sell the tax reform plan to the public. Public support will be vital if comprehensive tax reform is to ever be realized.

NCSL Contacts: Max Behlke, Jake Lestock

Congress Will Have a Busy Fall

While the Senate will remain in session for the next two weeks to work on issues that have been sidelined during the health care debate, the House has adjourned for a five-week recess and won't return to Washington until September. And September is shaping up to be a critical month in Washington for Congress and the Republican agenda. Even if health care legislation remains sidelined, Republican leaders will need to secure the votes to keep the government funded and to raise the debt ceiling, which will likely expose the ideological divisions within the GOP again. If Republicans have trouble sending "must-pass" legislation to the president's desk, it will portend an even tougher path for other major initiatives for this Congress, including comprehensive tax reform.

Here are a few of the big-ticket items that Congress must address this fall:

- **Pass an Appropriations Bill:** FY 2018 begins on Oct. 1. Rumors on the Hill indicate that as of now, Congress will likely extend funding until December, and then fight over the rest of the year's funding in the final month of the year. Failure to pass a spending measure in time, which would result in a government shutdown, would be devastating for Republicans and their agenda in Washington.
- **Raise the Debt Ceiling:** Congress has not made any headway on a plan to lift the nation's debt limit because of infighting in the administration and on Capitol Hill on whether or not the raise should come with strings attached. Lawmakers have until October to get this done and, if history repeats itself, don't expect a deal until the last minute.
- **Reauthorize the Federal Aviation Administration:** Although bills are under consideration in both chambers, the House and the Senate will need to resolve differences, including whether to privatize the nation's air traffic control system.

- **The Children's Health Insurance Program**, which provides health care coverage to more than 8 million kids, is authorized through 2019, but the funding expires at the end of the current fiscal year, on Sept. 30.
- **Reauthorize the National Flood Insurance Program**: The program is set to expire at the end of September. The program has come under scrutiny following its handling of claims from Superstorm Sandy in 2012 and fiscal hawks are concerned about the program's ballooning \$24 billion debt. Numerous members have called for reforms, including proposals for privatization.

NCSL Contacts: Max Behlke, Jake Lestock

D.Y.K.? The longest terms of office in the U.S. government, aside from judges, are the comptroller general and the assistant comptroller general. They hold office for 15. The current comptroller general is Eugene Louis Dodaro, who assumed his post Dec. 22, 2010.

House Committee Approves Autonomous Vehicle Legislation; Senate Committee Expected to Follow Suit Shortly

On July 27, the House Energy and Commerce Committee approved H.R. 3388, Safely Ensuring Lives Future Deployment and Research In Vehicle Evolution Act (SELF DRIVE Act). The bill aims to update federal regulations, requirements and preemption language related to autonomous vehicles and vehicle technology. Most important, the bill includes language that would expand federal preemption of states from motor vehicle safety to include automated driving systems, or components of automated driving systems.

While still an expansion of current preemption, the final language approved by the committee was changed from earlier versions after a letter from a number of major state associations, including NCSL, the National Governors Association, and others that called on the committee to ensure that states continue to serve in their traditional role as regulators of vehicle operations. Additionally, the letter, spearheaded by NCSL, was successful in revising language regarding exemptions of federal motor vehicle safety standards (FMVSS), and vehicle safety assurance requirements from earlier versions of the bill.

There is a similar ongoing effort on autonomous vehicles in the Senate. On June 13, Senate Commerce, Science and Transportation Committee Chairman John Thune (R-S.D.), Ranking Member

Bill Nelson (D-Fla.) and Senator Gary Peters (D-Mich.) introduced a set of principles on self-driving vehicle legislation. The six principles outlined include:

- Prioritizing motor vehicle safety to ensure that federal standards are eventually set.
- Promoting innovation and reducing roadblocks by ensuring that existing rules are updated to account for this new technology.
- Remaining tech-neutral to avoid favoring one business model over another.
- Reinforcing separate federal and state roles to ensure the federal government sets vehicle safety standards while states regulate the driver, and while also making targeted updates for this new technology.
- Strengthening cybersecurity to ensure the vehicles are safe to operate.
- Educating the public around the differences between conventional and self-driving vehicles.

It remains unclear when the Commerce Committee will release a formal bill although a markup is not anticipated until September, at the earliest.

NCSL Contacts: Ben Husch, Kristen Hildreth

DYK? President James Garfield could write Latin with one hand and Greek with the other ... at the same time.

NCSL's States' Agenda to be Adopted at Boston Legislative Summit

Next week, the NCSL Standing Committees will meet to consider almost 50 policy directives and resolutions during NCSL's Legislative Summit in Boston. If approved by at least three-fourths of the states in the committees, the policy directives and resolutions will then be considered at the annual Business Meeting. To be part of NCSL's States Agenda, policy directives and resolutions will again need to be adopted by at least three-fourth of the states. These policy directives and resolutions will guide NCSL's advocacy efforts before Congress and the administration.

Below is a link to the policy directives and resolutions the NCSL Standing Committees expect to consider during their meetings on Sunday, Aug. 6, and Monday, Aug. 7. Final votes on all policy directives and resolutions reported from the standing committees will take place at the annual NCSL Business Meeting, scheduled for Monday, Aug. 7, from 3:15--5 p.m.

More on the NCSL Policy Process can be found [here](#).

NCSL Contacts: Neal Osten, Molly Ramsdell

NCSL President-elect Senator Deb Peters Testified Before Congress

NCSL President-elect Senator Deb Peters (R) of South Dakota testified before the House Judiciary Committee's Subcommittee on Regulatory Reform, Commercial and Antitrust Law last Tuesday in opposition to the No Regulation Without Representation Act, H.R. 2887. Peters explained in her testimony that the legislation would preempt countless laws in every state and would cede even more control to the federal government. "Congress has persistently endeavored to erode state sovereignty and undermine the significance of the 10th Amendment in favor of more centralized power at the national level," Peters said. "This erosion of state sovereignty has only accelerated in recent years as the congressional thirst to dictate state governance apparently cannot be quenched."

In her written testimony, Peters cited some of the hundreds, or even thousands, of state laws that would be preempted by the No Regulations Without Representation Act, including state laws that prohibit the possession of Salvia, laws that would address the opioid crisis, and laws that protect against invasive species. She also said the legislation being discussed in the hearing would have shut down efforts by states to collect sales taxes on remote transactions and would preempt numerous other tax laws, such as corporate income taxes, in 25 states.

In general, the members of the subcommittee were sympathetic to the concerns raised by Peters, and most offered little or no support for the No Regulation Without Representation Act. Representative Doug Collins (R-Ga.), in his comments, stated that because of the broad and preemptive nature of the bill, "I cannot support the approach we are taking in the subcommittee here today in considering this legislation."

NCSL Contacts: Max Behlke, Jake Lestock

The July 24, 2017 Capitol-to-Capitol can be found [here](#).

If you have comments or suggestions regarding Capitol-to-Capitol, please contact [Max Behlke](#).

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Capitol to Capitol is a publication of the National Conference of State Legislatures, the premier bipartisan organization representing the interest of states, territories and commonwealths. NCSL is recognized as a formidable lobbying force in Washington, D.C. NCSL works to protect states from unfunded federal mandates and unwarranted federal pre-emption of state authority, and seeks to provide state legislatures the flexibility they need to innovate and be responsive to the unique needs of their residents. NCSL's advocacy is guided by the policy directives and resolutions adopted by a ¾ majority of states during NCSL's Legislative Summit. Photo courtesy of washington.org.



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7700 East First Place, Denver, CO 80230

From: Esther Bardo
Sent: Monday, October 30, 2017 10:24 AM
Subject: Pizza, pretzels, beer, & policy with AFF

Hello--

My name is Esther Bardo and I'm the Columbus chapter leader of America's Future Foundation. I'd like to personally invite you to our next event, this Wednesday, November 1 at Callahan's!

Join us as we discuss the policy issues currently facing Ohio with The Buckeye Institute's Daniel Dew and Americans for Prosperity's Micah Derry. See below for further details.

Hope to see you there,
Esther

Esther A. Bardo
Columbus Chapter Leader
America's Future Foundation
p:330.831.1114
e:Esther@americasfuture.org



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Join us next week!



The Heart of it All The Policies Behind the Issues

When: Wednesday, November 1, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.

Where: Callahan's Columbus, 520 Park Street, Columbus

Cost: Free!



The heart of it all — Join us for a discussion of the policies behind the issues facing our state.

This month, we are welcoming two leading policy voices: **The Buckeye Institute's Legal Fellow, Daniel Dew**, and **Americans for Prosperity's State Director, Micah Derry**. Dew will examine **the potential effects of amending Ohio's traditional criminal justice system with respect to victims' rights**. Derry will describe **the dangers of artificial price control and government overreach in Ohio's economy**. Join us for this dynamic discussion on some of the key issues facing our state.

November 1st from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm at Callahan's — Hors d'oeuvres will be provided and your first drink is on us! RSVP now.

Spread the word! Invite your friends to this event on Facebook.



From: We Are Ohio
Sent: Tuesday, December 19, 2017 4:02 PM
To: Zielinski, Justin
Subject: Say No To Anti-Worker Legislation

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December 19, 2017

Dear Speaker Pro Tempore Schuring,

As Chairman of We Are Ohio, I am writing to ask you not to sign on as a co-sponsor to Representative John Becker's anti-worker legislation and to oppose Rep. Becker's efforts to hurt working families in your district and across Ohio.

Rep. Becker, we believe, is pursuing an anti-worker agenda pushed by out-of-state interests like the Koch brothers, Americans for Prosperity and the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC).

He has outlined six separate constitutional amendments that are all designed to hurt workers, lower wages, decrease safety in the workplace and cause further economic insecurity for the people that you serve.

= 9On behalf of We Are Ohio, I'm asking you to stand for workers in your district and our state and to stand against these out-of-state parties. I'm sure you would agree that Ohio elected officials should represent the people of Ohio, not out of state interests.

We Are Ohio was formed in 2011 when a similar threat to workers' security was passed by the Ohio General Assembly and signed into law by Governor Kasich. We asked the citizens to veto Senate Bill 5 that year and restore collective bargaining rights to public sector employees, and they responded with historic numbers.

Nearly 1.3 million Ohioans signed petitions to put the citizens veto on the ballot, 17,000 Ohioans volunteered for the campaign and, on Election Day, 2.1 million Ohioans voted to veto Senate Bill 5 by a 62-38 margin.

We Are Ohio has remained a force since then. We have held meetings all across the state, have a huge online presence and maintain a database and email list of nearly 1 million voters who agreed with us in 2011.

We believe that the prudent course here is for the legislature to steer away from any anti-worker laws, amendments or ballot initiatives and we ask for your support.

Governor Kasich has acknowledged that such legislation does not attract business to our great state.

I'm respectfully asking you to tell Representative Becker that his ideas are harmful and divisive and that we don't want history to repeat itself.

Sincerely,



= 9Christopher Mabe
Chairman - We Are Ohio

We Are Ohio

545 E. Town St.

Columbus, OH 43215

= A

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From: Zielinski, Justin
Sent: Tuesday, December 19, 2017 4:05 PM
To: Rep48
Subject: FW: Say No To Anti-Worker Legislation

From: We Are Ohio [mailto:bounce@bounce.myngp.com] **On Behalf Of** We Are Ohio
Sent: Tuesday, December 19, 2017 4:02 PM
To: Zielinski, Justin <Justin.Zielinski@ohiohouse.gov>
Subject: Say No To Anti-Worker Legislation

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Columbus, OH 43215

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